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October 3, 2023

Representative Tyrone Carter
Chair of House Regulatory Reform Committee
375 Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48933

RE: **House Bill 4603 to Amend 1937 PA 306**

Dear Representative Carter ,

We are writing to express our support for the proposed substitute for House Bill No. 4603, a bill to amend 1937 PA 306, which will authorize the use of Design-Build Project Delivery for public capital projects in Michigan.

I am an Architect, registered in Indiana. I have been providing professional services for Indiana public school corporations and local governmental units for over 45 years. In 2006, Indiana promulgated the Indiana Public Works Design-Build Law [IC 5-30]. The architectural firm with which I was associated at the time made the strategic business decision to serve public school clients in the role of "Design Criteria Developer" that was defined in the new law.

I became a Certified Design-Build Professional by the Design-Build Institute of America ("DBIA Certified") to become better equipped to fulfill our services to our clients. I have continued my involvement in DBIA and currently serve as Vice-Chair of the DBIA National Education Committee. I am a DBIA continuing education instructor, and teach DBIA Best Practices classes across the country on a regular basis.

In my role as Design Criteria Developer for public projects in Indiana, I have been involved in the successful completion of well over 100 projects valued collectively at more than one billion dollars in construction value.

Design-Build is a proven capital project delivery method, and accounts for over 45% of all construction volume nationwide. Independent research has consistently demonstrated that Design-Build construction delivery results in projects completed more quickly, at less overall cost, with high quality outcomes. It allows for more complete integration of construction means and methods with project design and engineering. This improves outcomes, reduces costs, minimizes disputes and is quite simply a better way to design and construct buildings.

Design-Build project delivery should be made available to the taxpayers of Michigan. It is proven to provide the best value and return on investment.

I have reviewed the proposed legislation and applaud the provisions requiring public owners to engage a Design Professional as Design Criteria Developer.

The engagement of a professional Design Criteria Developer builds the technical bridge between an Owner who may not have the capacity, nor be fully aware of the nuances of successfully managing a Design-Build Project and competitive selection of a highly qualified Design-Build team.

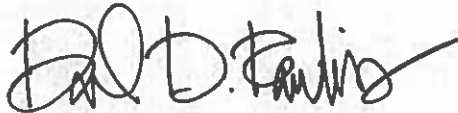
The Design Criteria Developer is critical to the process of an Owner defining their needs for a project prior to initiating a procurement. This sets the bar for scope and quality expectations of the Owner for the Design-Build teams competing for selection. In other forms of project delivery, an Owner would typically depend on its Architect / Engineer to provide space programming and schematic design needed to define project scope and balance it with available funding. In Design-Build, the criteria developer typically provides these preliminary services.

The criteria developer also serves the Owner as a technical resource during the execution of Design-Build services once the Design-Build team has been selected, further ensuring the completed project meets the Owner's requirements.

Design-Build is a proven methodology for achieving high performing, excellent quality facilities economically and quickly, with minimal problems and disputes. It should be an available option in the toolbox of every public entity in Michigan. Please support passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

The **Rawlins Group**, LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. D. Rawlins", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel D. Rawlins, RA, DBIA
Principal | Design Criteria Developer