



MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

September 6, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 892 (Padilla)—Public contracts: automated decision systems: procurement standards

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I urge your signature on SB 892. This bill would require the California Department of Technology to develop and adopt regulations to create an automated decision system (ADS) procurement standard. The legislation defines ADS as a computational process derived from machine learning, statistical modeling, data analytics, or artificial intelligence (AI) that issues simplified output, including a score, classification, or recommendation, that is used to assist or replace human discretionary decisionmaking and materially impacts natural persons.

The rapid advancement of AI technology presents great opportunities for improving public services and enhancing efficiency in various sectors. The City embraces new and emerging technologies like Generative AI, which can generate helpful content such as emails, research summaries, reports, and images at the request of the user. However, there has been growing public concern about the risks posed by AI systems around AI bias, data privacy, and cybersecurity. Developing proactive safeguards and standards related to AI systems is pivotal to protecting communities against AI risks and holding AI system vendors accountable to using AI for social good.

The City developed a [Generative AI Interim Guidance](#), a resource for City staff that details eight guidelines intended to minimize the risks involved with using Generative AI and maximize the benefits of efficiency these systems offer. Furthermore, the City is a part of the [GovAI Coalition](#), which aims to give government agencies a voice in shaping the future of AI and ensure that AI development is geared toward the benefit of society. SB 892 sets a critical precedent for cities to adopt policies and ordinances related to regulating the use of AI systems. SB 892 is a crucial step forward in ensuring the responsible and ethical usage of AI technology in the State.

The City is committed to leveraging innovation to improve the quality of life for residents, while also securing their safety and privacy. Furthermore, the City recognizes the importance of embracing emerging technologies responsibly, and SB 892 ensures that responsibility.

For these reasons, the City requests your signature on SB 892.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mayor Rex Richardson
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 65th District
The Honorable Josh Lowenthal, State Assembly, 69th District

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