



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Senator Pat Bates Named 2016 Legislator of the Year by the  
American Council of Engineering Companies, California**

For her strong support of the design professional community, the American Council of Engineering Companies, California, named Senator Patricia Bates (R - Laguna Niguel) as its 2016 Legislator of the Year.

**Jeffrey Walker**  
*President*

"Senator Bates understands the complexities of our industry," said Jeff Walker, of Kleinfelder and ACEC California President. "She has consistently demonstrated leadership on issues of importance to us and has risen as a champion in many ways, including standing in support of reform to uninsurable contractual requirements."

**Michael Cooper**  
*President-Elect*

**Ralph Guida, IV**  
*Vice President*

ACEC California names an annual 'Legislator of the Year' that demonstrates political courage and strength of conviction on public policy issues important to the engineering and land surveying industries.

**Gary Antonucci**  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

**Bruce Presser**  
*Immediate Past President*

"It is an honor to be recognized by ACEC California and its membership of consulting engineering and land surveying professionals," said Senator Bates. "I share ACEC California's mission of building a better California and appreciate opportunities to work with ACEC California to achieve that mission in the state legislature."

**John Moossazadeh**  
*ACEC National Director*

**Brad Diede**  
*Executive Director*

After serving in both the Assembly and as an Orange County Supervisor, Senator Bates now serves the 36<sup>th</sup> Senate District, representing nearly 1 million people from Encinitas in San Diego County to Rancho Santa Margarita in Orange County. Sworn in on December 1, 2014, Senator Bates remains focused on legislation that encourages streamlined project delivery, promotes a high quality of life for all, protects taxpayers, and restores fiscal common sense to state government.

Ms. Bates values efficient and effective infrastructure delivery options, evidenced by Senate Bill 901, a bill she authored this last legislative session. SB 901 was supported by ACEC California and would have created the Advanced Mitigation Program in the Department of Transportation to implement environmental mitigation measures in advance of future transportation projects.

SB 901 promoted flexibility in the application of CEQA to transportation projects without sacrificing substantive environmental protections. Given the enormity of our state's transportation infrastructure needs, ACEC California believes it is critical to consider innovative mechanisms to deliver projects as quickly as possible and applauds the senator's leadership on this issue.

ACEC California is honored to present Senator Bates with its Legislator of the Year award this year and looks forward to working with her in the future.

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