

Legislative Alert

Points of interest:

1. Open procurement legislation has been introduced in several states.
 - a. Would force utilities to seek bids for all pipe materials and accept the lowest.
2. The legislation forces the selection of pipe materials based solely on price.
3. Project managers and design engineers would no longer have the ability to decide on the pipe material for their projects.
4. AWWA believes that not all pipe materials are equally suitable for all applications.
5. The legislation would have a negative effect on the ability of utilities and design professionals to best serve their communities.
6. Recommendations:
 - a. Inform AWWA Government Affairs office of any activities associated with this effort in your community.
 - b. Educate other water works professionals and elected officials about this effort to help prevent the legislation.

DIPRA comments:

1. Good response from AWWA about the dangers of the open procurement legislation.
2. Utilities can currently choose to use any pipe material they want and many have decided that materials that the legislation would force them to use aren't acceptable.