

Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center Leadership Endorses Choice of Counsel in International Arbitration

DECEMBER 26, 2017 - Palo Alto, Calif – The executive leadership of Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center (SVAMC) endorsed California Senate Bill 766, which confirms the right of foreign and out of state parties to be represented by counsel of their choice in international commercial arbitrations. The endorsement was provided by SVAMC Chairman Gary Benton, CEO Lester Schiefelbein and President Chris Compton to the California Senate Judiciary Committee in preparation for the hearing on the Bill.

“Commercial arbitration provides technology companies and businesses contracting with them a technically specialized, efficient, effective and enforceable mechanism for binding resolution of private business disputes,” said Benton. Senate Bill 766 resolves uncertainty in the law by providing a clear statutory authorization for parties based outside California to be represented by their foreign and out of state counsel in international commercial arbitrations. The Bill, which is based on an ABA Model Rule recommendation, confirms access to counsel of choice consistent with the laws of other leading international arbitral centers and includes various improvements over the statutory provisions in other US jurisdictions. “The Bill benefits the global technology sector and other business sectors engaged in international trade by reaffirming support for international arbitration.”

ABOUT: SVAMC is a non-profit serving the global technology sector through educational programming and related activities. SVAMC works with leading technology companies, law firms, ADR institutions and universities in Silicon Valley and around the globe to promote effective and efficient resolution of technology-related business disputes. SVAMC is an affiliate of the Global Technology Dispute Resolution Council.