HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 312   **2025 Regular Session**   **Gadberry**

PUBLIC CONTRACTS: Prohibits the state and any of its political subdivisions or agencies from using price or price-related information as a factor in the selection of architectural and engineering professional services for certain projects

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Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1.   Makes technical changes.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

<u>Present law</u> establishes a policy for the state, its political subdivisions, and its agencies to select architectural and engineering professional services based on competence and qualifications for a fair and reasonable price. Prohibits the state and its political subdivisions or agencies from selecting architects, engineers, landscape architects, and land surveyors from using price or price-related information as a factor in the selection.

<u>Proposed law</u> modifies <u>present law</u> by prohibiting persons who contract through political subdivisions and agencies from using price or price-related information as a factor in selecting architects, engineers, landscape architects, and land surveyors for projects using state or local funding.

<u>Present law</u> requires a political subdivision or agency negotiate professional service contracts with firms at fair and reasonable contract rates. Specifies that if the political subdivision or agency is unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with that firm, it must terminate negotiations and negotiate with the next selected firm, until a contract is negotiated satisfactorily.

<u>Proposed law</u> modifies <u>present law</u> by requiring subdivisions, agencies, or persons they contract through to negotiate for professional services at a rate that is fair and reasonable. Should the subdivisions, agencies, or persons they contract through be unable to properly negotiate the contract, it is required they formally terminate negotiations and undertake negotiations with the next firm, continuing the process until negotiated satisfactorily.

(Amends R.S. 38:2318.1(A) and (B))