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## DIGEST

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HB 794 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Gadberry

**Abstract:** Provides for political subdivisions and agencies to negotiate for a fair and reasonable price with the most highly qualified firm selected and then move to the next highly qualified selected firm if a contract cannot be negotiated until a contract is successfully negotiated.

Present law 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.

Present law provides that the state and its political subdivisions or agencies cannot select architects, engineers, landscape architects, and land surveyors using price or price-related information as a factor in the selection.

Proposed law retains present law and requires that a political subdivision or agency negotiate a contract for a fair and reasonable price with the most highly qualified firm and if it cannot negotiate a contract with that firm, it should begin negotiating with the next most qualified firm and repeat until a contract is successfully negotiated.

Present law excludes certain contracts that are authorized under present law.

Present law requires records defined by present law dealing with the selection of architectural and engineering services to be public records.

(Amends R.S. 38:2318.1)