

**HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**

**HB 794**

**2024 Regular Session**

**Gadberry**

**PUBLIC CONTRACTS:** Requires a political subdivision or agency negotiate a fair and reasonable contract with the most highly qualified firm for architectural and engineering professional services

**Synopsis of Senate Amendments**

1. Removes the requirement that a political subdivision or agency's negotiation with the firm selected be the most highly qualified firm.

**Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate**

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 professional services at a compensation rate the agency head determines is fair and reasonable with the selected firm and if it cannot negotiate a contract with that selected firm, it should begin negotiating with the next selected 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.

Proposed law retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 38:2318.1)