The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 513 Original 2026 Regular Session Fesi

Proposed law provides a pilot program to authorize local governmental subdivisions or political subdivisions to use the average bid method to determine the bidder for awarding public contracts. Proposed law further provides the pilot program shall be limited to fifteen projects per year and subject to the approval of the Senate and House committees on transportation, highways and public works.

Proposed law provides for definitions.

Proposed law provides for requirements for a local governmental subdivision or a political subdivision to specify in its bidding documents for a public work and how bids are awarded.

Proposed law provides no less than sixty days prior to advertising for bids a local governmental subdivision or political subdivision deliver written notification of the proposed project by name and description and the reason the method is in the public interest, to the Senate and House committees on transportation, highways, and public works for review and approval. If approved, and when the project is completed, the owner must submit a report including final cost and evaluation of competition, cost and quality, the name of the bidder awarded the contract, the amount of each responsive bid, the average mean of all responsive bids, and the basis for award to both committees.

Proposed law provides proposed law will not apply to professional services.

Proposed law provides for DOTD to use the average bid method for road and highway construction projects or other best project delivery method practices.

Proposed law provides if five or more responsive bids are received DOTD will average the bids and the highest and lowest responsive bids. The department will award the contract to the bidder whose responsive bid is closest to the average regardless of being over or under. If less than three responsive bids are received, all bids will be rejected.

Proposed law provides proposed law will not apply to professional services.

Effective August 1, 2026

(Adds R.S. 38:2211.3 and R.S. 48:255.9)