

2023 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 131

BY SENATOR PRICE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

PORTS/HARBORS/TERMINALS. Provides for the commission for the Port of South Louisiana to set contract limits. (8/1/23)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 34:2473(B)(3) and (F)(1) and (2), relative to the commission for  
3 the Port of South Louisiana; provides for expenditure authority for contracts and  
4 purchases to be established by commission bylaws; and to provide for related  
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 34:2473(B)(3) and (F)(1) and (2) are hereby amended and reenacted  
8 to read as follows:

9 §2473. Jurisdictional boundaries; rights and powers of commission and executive  
10 director

11 \* \* \*

12 B. \* \* \*

13 (3) The executive director shall employ such officers, agents, and employees  
14 as he finds necessary in the performance of his duties and may prescribe the duties,  
15 powers, and compensation of such officers, agents, and employees. The executive  
16 director may execute work contracts with the unclassified employees of the port at  
17 a salary which does not exceed seventy-five percent of the salary paid the executive

1 director for a period of not more than two years. The executive director shall contract  
 2 for legal, financial, engineering, and other professional services necessary or  
 3 expedient in the conduct of the port's affairs. All contracts for professional services  
 4 for an amount exceeding ~~twenty-five thousand dollars~~ **the amount allowed by the**  
 5 **commission bylaws** shall not be binding or effective until approved by the  
 6 commission in a public meeting by a record vote of the majority of its membership.  
 7 In addition, all contracts for professional services exceeding one hundred twenty-five  
 8 thousand dollars shall be subject to the provisions of ~~R.S. 39:1503 and 1504~~ **R.S.**  
 9 **39:1595(B)** governing requests for proposals and cancellation thereof. The executive  
 10 director may, upon terms and conditions mutually agreeable, utilize the services of  
 11 the executive departments of the state.

\* \* \*

13 F.(1) Any contracts for a duration of more than one year or any contract when  
 14 the contract amount exceeds ~~twenty-five thousand dollars~~ **the amount allowed by**  
 15 **the commission bylaws**, except contracts for employment of unclassified personnel,  
 16 which are entered into by the executive director in the discharge of his official duties  
 17 as provided in this Chapter shall not be binding or effective until approved by the  
 18 commission by a record vote of the majority of its membership.

19 (2) All purchases which exceed ~~twenty-five thousand dollars~~ **the amount**  
 20 **allowed by the commission bylaws** from one person, corporation, or entity entered  
 21 into by the executive director shall receive the prior approval of the commission by  
 22 a record vote of a majority of its membership.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Archana Cadge.

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	DIGEST	
SB 131 Reengrossed	2023 Regular Session	Price

Present law allows the executive director to contract for legal, financial, engineering, and other professional services up to \$25,000 without approval by the commission. Proposed law changes the amount the executive director can contract with commission approval from \$25,000 to the amount allowed by the commission bylaws.

Present law allows contracts for more than one year, or any contract when the contract is less than \$25,000, except contracts for employment of unclassified personnel, entered into by the executive director in the discharge of his official duties without approval by the commission. Proposed law changes the amount the executive director can contract without commission approval from \$25,000 to the amount allowed by the commission bylaws.

Present law allows purchases less than \$25,000 by the executive director without approval of the commission. Proposed law changes the amount the executive director can purchase without commission approval from \$25,000 to the amount allowed by the commission bylaws.

Effective August 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 34:2473(B)(3) and (F)(1) and (2))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Makes technical change of referenced statute from R.S. 39:1503 and 1504 to R.S. 39:1595(B).