

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 895

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

PUBLIC CONTRACT/BIDS: Grants preferences to Louisiana resident contractors for integrated coastal protection projects

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 38:2225.1.1, relative to letting of public contracts; to grant a preference to  
3 Louisiana resident contractors on contracts for integrated coastal protection projects;  
4 to provide for exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 38:2225.1.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §2225.1.1. Contracts for integrated coastal protection projects; preferences;  
8 exclusions

9 A. In letting contracts for public work for integrated coastal protection  
10 projects by any public entity, except contracts financed in whole or in part by  
11 contributions or loans from any agency of the United States government, preference  
12 shall be given to Louisiana resident contractors over nonresident contractors. Any  
13 contract awarded by a public entity for integrated coastal protection projects for  
14 which competitive bidding is not required by law shall be awarded to a Louisiana  
15 resident contractor, provided there is a Louisiana resident contractor available with  
16 the expertise required for the specific job. If competitive bidding is required by law,  
17 the contract shall be awarded to the Louisiana resident contractor making the lowest  
18 responsible bid if the Louisiana resident contractor's bid is not more than ten percent  
19 higher than the lowest responsible nonresident bid and the Louisiana resident

1 contractor agrees to revise his bid to be no more than the lowest responsible  
 2 nonresident bid.  
 3 B. For purposes of this Section, integrated coastal protection projects shall  
 4 be as defined by R.S. 49:214.2 and shall include but not be limited to construction  
 5 and maintenance of levees and restoration projects.

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## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

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HB 895 Original

2016 Regular Session

Zeringue

**Abstract:** Provides a preference for Louisiana resident contractors for public projects for integrated coastal protection projects.

Proposed law requires public entities to give preference to La. resident contractors in letting contracts for public work for integrated coastal protection projects. Expects contracts financed in whole or in part by the US government.

If competitive bidding is not required, proposed law requires such contract be awarded to a La. resident contractor, provided there is one available with the expertise required for the specific job. If competitive bidding is required by law, the contract shall be awarded to the resident contractor making the lowest responsible bid, if the bid is not more than 10% higher than the lowest responsible nonresident bid and the resident contractor agrees to revise his bid to be no more than the lowest responsible nonresident bid.

Present law (R.S. 49:214.2) defines "project" as a physical structure or structures designed and constructed according to the annual state integrated coastal protection plan and defines "integrated coastal protection" as plans, projects, policies, and programs intended to provide hurricane protection or coastal conservation or restoration, including coastal restoration; coastal protection; infrastructure; storm damage reduction; flood control; water resources development; erosion control measures; marsh management; diversions; saltwater intrusion prevention; wetlands and central wetlands conservation, enhancement, and restoration; barrier island and shoreline stabilization and preservation; coastal passes stabilization and restoration; mitigation; storm surge reduction; or beneficial use projects.

Proposed law specifies that integrated coastal protection projects have the same meaning as provided in present law and shall include construction and maintenance of levees and restoration projects.

(Adds R.S. 38:2225.1.1)