

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill gives Hennepin County substantially the same authority as the state has for capital improvement contracts with an estimated cost of no more than \$250,000. The state law was enacted in 2005.

Section

1 Procedure. Cross-references.

2 Job order contracting.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines “job order contracting,” “project,” and “request for qualifications.” A “project” is an undertaking to construct, alter, maintain, repair, or enlarge a building, structure, road, or bridge, or make other improvements.

Subd. 2. Authority. Gives Hennepin County authority to use job order contracting for projects that do not exceed \$250,000.

Subd. 3. Job order contracting request for qualifications. Authorizes the county to issue a request for qualifications that includes criteria that will be used for projects. Prohibits criteria from unduly restricting competition or relating to collective bargaining status of the contractor. Specifies notice requirements. Permits the county to include criteria that advances the county’s policies related to small business contracting and other purchasing policies.

Subd. 4. Qualified contractors. Requires the county to review responses and establish a list of responders who have the ability to enter into the master contract for

Section

the project. Permits the county to limit the number of contractors on the list. Requires the county to allow contractors to submit qualifications at least every three years.

Subd. 5. Construction services bidding. Provides that when using job order contracting: (1) for projects up to \$50,000 the county must request at least two bids; (2) for projects over \$50,000 and not exceeding \$100,000, the county must request at least three bids; (3) for projects over \$100,000 and less than \$250,00, the county must request at least four bids.

Subd. 6. Qualified contractor selection. Requires the county to select the contractor who submits the lowest price bid.

Subd. 7. Reasonable distribution of bid requests among qualified contractors. Requires the county to develop a system to ensure a reasonable opportunity for all qualified contractors to bid on construction services.