

By Representative Lacasa

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to educational facilities;  
3           amending s. 235.31, F.S.; requiring boards to  
4           prequalify bidders for construction contracts  
5           according to Commissioner of Education rule;  
6           requiring certification or licensure of bidders  
7           or contractors; amending s. 489.125, F.S.;  
8           conforming language relating to construction  
9           contractors; repealing s. 489.527, F.S.,  
10          relating to electrical and alarm system  
11          contractors, to conform; repealing section  
12          633.551(5), F.S., relating to fire protection  
13          system contractors, to conform; providing an  
14          effective date.

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16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18           Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 235.31, Florida  
19 Statutes, as amended by chapter 97-190, Laws of Florida, is  
20 amended to read:

21           235.31 Advertising and awarding contracts;  
22 prequalification of contractor.--

23           (2) Boards shall prequalify bidders for construction  
24 contracts according to ~~may elect to come under the~~ rules  
25 prescribed by the Commissioner of Education which require for  
26 the prequalification of bidders of educational facilities  
27 construction. Boards shall require that all construction or  
28 capital improvement bids be accompanied by evidence that the  
29 bidder holds an appropriate certificate or license or that the  
30 prime contractor has a current valid license prior to bid  
31 award for each project.

1 Section 2. Section 489.125, Florida Statutes, is  
2 amended to read:

3 489.125 Prequalification of certificateholders  
4 ~~eligible to participate in projects under s. 235.31.--Any~~  
5 person holding a certificate shall be prequalified ~~is~~  
6 qualified to bid by ~~participate in any project under s.~~  
7 ~~235.31, unless a district school board elects to prequalify~~  
8 ~~contractors~~ pursuant to uniform prequalification of  
9 contractors criteria adopted by rule of the Commissioner State  
10 ~~Board~~ of Education. This section does not supersede any small,  
11 woman-owned or minority-owned business enterprise preference  
12 program adopted by a district school board. A district school  
13 board may not modify or supplement the uniform  
14 prequalification criteria adopted by rule. ~~if a district~~  
15 ~~school board elects to prequalify contractors,~~A person  
16 holding a certificate must apply to each ~~that~~ board for  
17 prequalification consideration.

18 Section 3. Section 489.527 and subsection (5) of  
19 section 633.551, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

20 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1 of the  
21 year in which enacted.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

With respect to educational facilities, provides that the prequalification of bidders for construction contracts shall be a requirement rather than an option. Requires certification or licensure of bidders or prime contractors.