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By the Committee on Fiscal Policy & Resources and Representative Wallace $\,$

A bill to be entitled An act relating to competitive solicitation for procurement of commodities, insurance, and contractual services; amending s. 120.57, F.S.; revising and clarifying uniform rules of procedure for certain actions; amending ss. 287.001, 287.012, 287.017, 287.022, 287.032, 287.042, 287.045, 287.056, 287.057, 287.0572, 287.058, 287.0731, 287.0822, 287.084, 287.087, 287.093, 287.09451, 287.133, 287.134, and 287.1345, F.S.; revising legislative intent and definitions; revising and clarifying purchasing categories and threshold amounts; revising purchase of insurance requirements and procedures; revising purposes, powers, duties, and functions of the Department of Management Services; revising and clarifying requirements and procedures for procurement of products and materials with recycled content; revising and clarifying requirements and procedures for certain purchases from state term contracts procured by the department; revising and clarifying procedures, requirements, and limitations for procurement of commodities or contractual services; revising present-value methodology requirements; clarifying pollution response action contract provisions; revising department rulemaking authority; revising provisions requiring certain teams for contract negotiations; revising provisions relating to purchases of beef and pork and prohibitions on

1 such; providing a penalty; revising and 2 clarifying provisions granting preference to 3 Florida businesses, businesses with drug-free workplace programs, and minority business 4 5 enterprises; revising the powers, duties, and functions of the Office of Supplier Diversity; 6 7 revising and clarifying provisions relating to 8 public entity crime and the denial or 9 revocation of the right to transact business with public entities; revising and clarifying 10 11 provisions relating to discrimination and denial or revocation of the right to transact 12 13 business with public entities; revising and 14 clarifying provisions imposing a surcharge on 15 users of state term contracts and providing for 16 deposit of proceeds collected; creating s. 287.096, F.S.; providing certain production 17 requirements for products offered for purchase 18 to a state agency by certain exempt entities; 19 20 amending s. 283.33, F.S., to conform; repealing 21 s. 287.073, F.S., relating to procurement of 22 information technology resources; repealing s. 287.121, F.S., relating to providing assistance 23 to the Department of Legal Affairs; providing 24 an effective date. 25

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

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Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 120.57, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

31 120.57 Additional procedures for particular cases.--

- 1 (3) ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO PROTESTS TO
 2 CONTRACT SOLICITATION BIDDING OR AWARD.--Agencies subject to
 3 this chapter shall utilize the uniform rules of procedure,
 4 which provide procedures for the resolution of protests
 5 arising from the contract bidding process. Such rules shall at
 6 least provide that:
 - (a) The agency shall <u>post</u> <u>provide</u> notice of its decision or intended decision concerning a bid solicitation or a contract award as follows:
 - 1. For a bid solicitation, notice of <u>an</u> a decision or intended decision shall be given by United States mail or <u>other express delivery notice</u>, by hand delivery, by posting at <u>the location at which the bids</u>, proposals, or replies were opened, or by electronic posting.
 - 2. For any decision of the Department of Management Services concerning a request by an agency for approval of an exceptional purchase under part I of chapter 287 and the rules of the Department of Management Services, notice of an $\frac{1}{2}$ decision or intended decision shall be given by posting such notice in the office of the Department of Management Services or by electronic posting.
 - 3. For any other agency decision, notice of a decision or intended decision shall be given either by posting the bid tabulation at the location where the bids were opened or by certified United States mail or other express delivery service, return receipt requested.

The notice required by this paragraph shall contain the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in s. 120.57(3), Florida Statutes, shall

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constitute a waiver of proceedings under chapter 120, Florida Statutes."

- (b) Any person who is adversely affected by the agency's agency decision or intended decision shall file with the agency a notice of protest in writing within 72 hours after the posting of the bid tabulation or after receipt of the notice of a the agency decision.or intended decision and shall file a formal written protest within 10 days after filing the notice of protest. With respect to a protest of the terms, conditions, and specifications contained in an invitation to bid, or in a request for proposals, or an invitation to negotiate, including any provisions governing the methods for ranking bids, proposals, or replies, awarding contracts, reserving rights of further negotiation, or the modification or amendment of any contract, the notice of protest shall be filed in writing within 72 hours after the posting of the advertisement receipt of notice of the project plans and specifications or intended project plans and specifications in an invitation to bid, a or request for proposals, or an invitation to negotiate. and The formal written protest shall be filed within 10 days after the date the notice of protest is filed. Failure to file a notice of protest or failure to file a formal written protest shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under this chapter. The formal written protest shall state with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based. Saturdays, Sundays, and state legal holidays shall be excluded in the computation of the 72-hour time periods provided by this paragraph.
- (c) Upon receipt of the formal written protest which 31 has been timely filed, the agency shall stop the bid

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solicitation process or the contract award process until the subject of the protest is resolved by final agency action, unless the agency head sets forth in writing particular facts and circumstances which require the continuance of the bid solicitation process or the contract award process without delay in order to avoid an immediate and serious danger to the public health, safety, or welfare.

- (d)1. The agency shall provide an opportunity to resolve the protest by mutual agreement between the parties within 7 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state legal holidays, after receipt of a formal written protest.
- If the subject of a protest is not resolved by mutual agreement within 7 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state legal holidays, after receipt of the formal written protest, and if there is no disputed issue of material fact, an informal proceeding shall be conducted pursuant to subsection (2) and applicable agency rules before a person whose qualifications have been prescribed by rules of the agency.
- If the subject of a protest is not resolved by mutual agreement within 7 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state legal holidays, after receipt of the formal written protest, and if there is a disputed issue of material fact, the agency shall refer the protest to the division for proceedings under subsection (1).
- (e) Upon receipt of a formal written protest referred pursuant to this subsection, the director of the division shall expedite the hearing and assign an administrative law judge who shall commence a hearing within 30 days after the receipt of the formal written protest by the division and 31 enter a recommended order within 30 days after the hearing or

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within 30 days after receipt of the hearing transcript by the administrative law judge, whichever is later. Each party shall be allowed 10 days in which to submit written exceptions to the recommended order. A final order shall be entered by the agency within 30 days of the entry of a recommended order. The provisions of this paragraph may be waived upon stipulation by all parties.

(f) In a competitive-procurement protest to an invitation to bid or request for proposal procurement, no submissions made after the bid or proposal opening that amend or supplement amending or supplementing the bid or proposal shall be considered. Unless otherwise provided by statute, the burden of proof shall rest with the party protesting the proposed agency action. In a competitive-procurement protest, other than a rejection of all bids, proposals, or replies, the administrative law judge shall conduct a de novo proceeding to determine whether the agency's proposed action is contrary to the agency's governing statutes, the agency's rules or policies, or the bid or proposal specifications contained in the bid, proposal, or reply. The standard of proof for such proceedings shall be whether the proposed agency action was clearly erroneous, contrary to competition, arbitrary, or capricious. In any protest bid-protest proceeding contesting an intended agency action to reject all bids, proposals, or replies, the standard of review by an administrative law judge shall be whether the agency's intended action is illegal, arbitrary, dishonest, or fraudulent.

Section 2. Section 287.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.001 Legislative intent.--The Legislature 31 recognizes that fair and open competition is a basic tenet of

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public procurement; that such competition reduces the appearance and opportunity for favoritism and inspires public confidence that contracts are awarded equitably and economically; and that documentation of the acts taken and effective monitoring mechanisms are important means of curbing any improprieties and establishing public confidence in the process by which commodities and contractual services are procured. It is essential to the effective and ethical procurement of commodities and contractual services that there be a system of uniform procedures to be utilized by state agencies in managing and procuring commodities and contractual services; that detailed justification of agency decisions in the procurement of commodities and contractual services be maintained; and that adherence by the agency and the vendor contractor to specific ethical considerations be required.

Section 3. Section 287.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.012 Definitions.--The following definitions shall apply in this part:

- "Agency" means any of the various state officers, departments, boards, commissions, divisions, bureaus, and councils and any other unit of organization, however designated, of the executive branch of state government. 'Agency" does not include the Board of Regents or the State University System.
- "Agency head" means, with respect to an agency headed by a collegial body, the executive director or chief administrative officer of the agency.
- "Artist" means an individual or group of individuals who profess and practice a demonstrated creative 31 talent and skill in the area of music, dance, drama, folk art,

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creative writing, painting, sculpture, photography, graphic arts, craft arts, industrial design, costume design, fashion design, motion pictures, television, radio, or tape and sound recording or in any other related field.

(4) "Best value" means the highest overall value to the state based on objective factors that include, but are not limited to, design, need, price, quality, and workmanship.

(5) "Commodity" means any of the various supplies, materials, goods, merchandise, food, equipment, information technology resources, and other personal property, including a mobile home, trailer, or other portable structure with floor space of less than 5,000 3,000 square feet, purchased, leased, or otherwise contracted for by the state and its agencies. "Commodity" also includes interest on deferred-payment commodity contracts approved pursuant to s. 287.063 entered into by an agency for the purchase of other commodities. However, commodities purchased for resale are excluded from this definition. Further, a prescribed drug, medical supply, or device required by a licensed health care provider as a part of providing health services involving examination, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, medical consultation, or administration for clients at the time the service is provided is not considered to be a "commodity." Printing of publications shall be considered a commodity when let upon contract pursuant to s. 283.33, whether purchased for resale or not.

(6)(5) "Competitive sealed bids," or "competitive sealed proposals," or "competitive sealed replies" refers to the process of receiving receipt of two or more sealed bids, or proposals, or replies submitted by responsive vendors and qualified bidders or offerors and includes bids, or proposals,

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or replies transmitted by electronic means in lieu of or in addition to written bids, or proposals, or replies.

(7) "Contractor" means a person who contracts to sell commodities or contractual services to an agency.

(8) (8) (7) "Contractual service" means the rendering by a vendor contractor of its time and effort rather than the furnishing of specific commodities. The term applies only to those services rendered by individuals and firms who are independent contractors, and such services may include, but are not limited to, evaluations; consultations; maintenance; accounting; security; management systems; management consulting; educational training programs; research and development studies or reports on the findings of consultants engaged thereunder; and professional, technical, and social services. "Contractual service" does not include any contract for the furnishing of labor or materials for the construction, renovation, repair, modification, or demolition of any facility, building, portion of building, utility, park, parking lot, or structure or other improvement to real property entered into pursuant to chapter 255 and rules adopted thereunder.

(9)(8) "Department" means the Department of Management Services.

(10) "Eligible user" means any person or entity authorized by the department pursuant to rule to purchase from state term contracts or to use the online procurement system.

(11)(9) "Exceptional purchase" means any purchase of commodities or contractual services excepted by law or rule from the requirements for competitive solicitations solicitation or acquisition, including, but not limited to, 31 purchases from a single source; purchases upon receipt of

less than two responsive bids, or proposals, or replies; purchases without publication of notice in the Florida Administrative Weekly: and exceptions granted by the department for a purchase of commodities from other than a state term contract vendor.

(12)(10) "Extension" means an increase in the time allowed for the contract period due to circumstances which, without fault of either party, make performance impracticable or impossible, or which prevent a new contract from being executed, with or without a proportional increase in the total dollar amount, with any increase to be based on the method and rate previously established in the contract.

(13) "Information technology" has the same meaning as that provided in s. 282.0041.

(14)(11) "Invitation to bid" means a written solicitation for competitive sealed bids with the title, date, and hour of the public bid opening designated and specifically defining the commodity, group of commodities, or services for which bids are sought. It includes instructions prescribing all conditions for bidding and shall be distributed to all prospective bidders simultaneously. The invitation to bid is used when the agency chooses to is capable of specifically define defining the scope of work for which a contractual service is required or when the agency is capable of establishing precise specifications defining the actual commodity or group of commodities required. A written solicitation includes a solicitation published or transmitted by electronic means.

(15) "Invitation to negotiate" means a written solicitation for competitive sealed replies to select one or more vendors with which to commence negotiations for the

procurement of commodities or contractual services. The invitation to negotiate is used when the agency determines that negotiations may be necessary for the state to receive the best value. A written solicitation includes a solicitation published or transmitted by electronic means.

(16)(12) "Minority business enterprise" has the same meaning as that provided in s. 288.703.

- (17) "Office" means the Office of Supplier Diversity of the Department of Management Services.
- (13) "Qualified bidder," "responsible bidder," "qualified offeror," or "responsible offeror" means a person who has the capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements and has the integrity and reliability which will ensure good faith performance.
- (18)(14) "Renewal" means contracting with the same vendor contractor for an additional contract period after the initial contract period, only if pursuant to contract terms specifically providing for such renewal.
- (19) "Request for information" means a written request made by an agency or eligible user to vendors for information about commodities or contractual services. Responses to these requests are not offers and cannot be accepted by the agency or eligible user to form a binding contract.
- (20)(15) "Request for proposals" means a written solicitation for competitive sealed proposals with the title, date, and hour of the public opening designated. A written solicitation includes a solicitation published or transmitted by electronic means. The request for proposals is used when the agency chooses not to is incapable of specifically define defining the scope of work for which the commodity, group of commodities, or contractual service is required and when the

agency is requesting that a qualified offeror propose a commodity, group of commodities, or contractual service to meet the specifications of the solicitation document. A written solicitation includes a solicitation published or transmitted by electronic means. A request for proposals includes, but is not limited to, general information, applicable laws and rules, functional or general specifications, statement of work, proposal instructions, and evaluation criteria. Requests for proposals shall state the relative importance of price and any other evaluation criteria.

- (21) "Request for a quote" means an oral or written request for written pricing or services information from a state term contract vendor for commodities and contractual services available on state term contract from that vendor.
- (22) "Responsible vendor" means a vendor who has the capability in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements and has the integrity and reliability that will ensure good faith performance.

(23)(16) "Responsive bid," or "responsive proposal," or "responsive reply" means a bid, or proposal, or reply submitted by a responsive, and responsible vendor or qualified, bidder or offeror which conforms in all material respects to the solicitation invitation to bid or request for proposals.

(24)(17) "Responsive vendor bidder" or "responsive offeror" means a vendor that person who has submitted a bid, or proposal, or reply which conforms in all material respects to the solicitation invitation to bid or request for proposals.

(25) "Solicitation" means an invitation to bid, a 1 2 request for proposals, or an invitation to negotiate. 3 (26) "State term contract" means a term contract that 4 is procured by the department pursuant to s. 287.042 and that 5 is used by agencies and eligible users pursuant to s. 287.056. 6 (27)(18) "Term contract" means an indefinite quantity 7 contract wherein a party agrees to furnish commodities or 8 contractual services during a defined prescribed period of 9 time, the expiration of which concludes the contract. 10 (19) "Office" means the Office of Supplier Diversity 11 of the Department of Management Services. 12 (20) "Invitation to negotiate" means a written 13 solicitation that calls for responses to select one or more 14 persons or business entities with which to commence 15 negotiations for the procurement of commodities or contractual 16 services. 17 (21) "Request for a quote" means a solicitation that calls for pricing information for purposes of competitively 18 19 selecting and procuring commodities and contractual services 20 from qualified or registered vendors. (22) "Information technology" means equipment, 21 22 hardware, software, firmware, programs, systems, networks, infrastructure, media, and related material used to 23 automatically, electronically, and wirelessly collect, 24 25 receive, access, transmit, display, store, record, retrieve, 26 analyze, evaluate, process, classify, manipulate, manage, assimilate, control, communicate, exchange, convert, converge, 27 28 interface, switch, or disseminate information of any kind or 29 form. 30 Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 287.017, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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287.017 Purchasing categories, threshold amounts; procedures for automatic adjustment by department .--

- (2) The department shall adopt rules to annually adjust the amounts provided in subsection (1) based upon the rate of change of a nationally recognized price index. rules shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (a) Designation of the nationally recognized price index or component thereof used to calculate the proper adjustment authorized in this section.
 - The procedure for rounding results.
- (c) The effective date of each annual adjustment based upon the previous calendar year data.

Section 5. Section 287.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.022 Purchase of insurance.--

- (1) Insurance, while not a commodity, nevertheless shall be purchased for all agencies by the department, except that agencies may purchase title insurance for land acquisition and may make emergency purchases of insurance pursuant to s. 287.057(6)(4)(a). The procedures for purchasing insurance, whether the purchase is made by the department or by the agencies, shall be the same as those set forth herein for the purchase of commodities.
- (2) When an insurer or agent pays a commission or any portion thereof to any person, on insurance purchased under this part, such payment shall be reported to the department in writing and under oath within 30 days thereafter. Any failure to report as required herein shall subject the insurer or agent to the penalties provided in s. 624.15.
- (3) The department of Management Services and the 31 Division of State Group Insurance shall not prohibit or limit

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any properly licensed insurer, health maintenance organization, prepaid limited health services organization, or insurance agent from competing for any insurance product or plan purchased, provided, or endorsed by the department or the division on the basis of the compensation arrangement used by the insurer or organization for its agents.

Section 6. Section 287.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.032 Purpose of department.--It shall be the purpose of the Department of Management Services:

- (1) To promote efficiency, economy, and the conservation of energy and to effect coordination in the purchase of commodities and services for the state.
- (2) To provide uniform commodity and contractual service procurement policies, rules, procedures, and forms for use by the various agencies and eligible users in procuring contractual services.
- (3) To procure and distribute state-owned surplus tangible personal property and federal surplus tangible personal property allocated to the state by the Federal Government.

Section 7. Section 287.042, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.042 Powers, duties, and functions. -- The department shall have the following powers, duties, and functions:

(1)(a) To canvass all sources of supply, establish and maintain a vendor list, and contract for the purchase, lease, or acquisition in any manner, including purchase by installment sales or lease-purchase contracts which may provide for the payment of interest on unpaid portions of the 31 purchase price, of all commodities and contractual services

 required by any agency under this chapter competitive bidding or by contractual negotiation. Any contract providing for deferred payments and the payment of interest shall be subject to specific rules adopted by the department.

- (b) The department may remove from its vendor list any source of supply which fails to fulfill any of its duties specified in a contract with the state. It may reinstate any such source of supply when it is satisfied that further instances of default will not occur.
- (c) In order to promote cost-effective procurement of commodities and contractual services, the department or an agency may enter into contracts that limit the liability of a vendor consistent with s. 672.719.
- (d) The department shall issue commodity numbers for all products of the corporation operating the correctional industry program which meet or exceed department specifications.
- (e) The department shall, beginning October 1, 1991, include the products offered by the corporation on any listing prepared by the department which lists term contracts executed by the department. The products or services shall be placed on such list in a category based upon specification criteria developed through a joint effort of the department and the corporation and approved by the department.
- (f) The corporation may submit products and services to the department for testing, analysis, and review relating to the quality and cost comparability. If, after review and testing, the department approves of the products and services, the department shall give written notice thereof to the corporation. The corporation shall pay a reasonable fee

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charged for testing its products by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

- electronic information services. The fees may be imposed on an individual transaction basis or as a fixed subscription for a designated period of time. At a minimum, the fees shall be determined in an amount sufficient to cover the department's projected costs of such services, including overhead in accordance with the policies of the Department of Management Services for computing its administrative assessment. All fees collected pursuant to this paragraph shall be deposited in the Grants and Donations Trust Fund for disbursement as provided by law.
- (2)(a) To establish plan and coordinate purchases in volume and to negotiate and execute purchasing agreements and procure state term contracts, pursuant to this chapter, for commodities and contractual services under which state agencies shall, and eligible users may, make purchases pursuant to s. 287.056, and under which a federal, county, municipality, institutions qualified pursuant to s. 240.605, private nonprofit community transportation coordinator designated pursuant to chapter 427, while conducting business related solely to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, or other local public agency may make purchases. The department may restrict purchases from some term contracts to state agencies only for those term contracts where the inclusion of other governmental entities will have an adverse effect on competition or to those federal facilities located in this state. In such planning or purchasing the Office of Supplier Diversity may monitor to ensure that opportunities are afforded for contracting with

minority business enterprises. The department, for state term contracts, and all agencies, for multiyear contractual services or term contracts, shall explore reasonable and economical means to utilize certified minority business enterprises. Purchases by any county, municipality, private nonprofit community transportation coordinator designated pursuant to chapter 427, while conducting business related solely to the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, or other local public agency under the provisions in the state purchasing contracts, and purchases, from the corporation operating the correctional work programs, of products or services that are subject to paragraph (1)(f), are exempt from the competitive solicitation sealed bid requirements otherwise applying to their purchases.

- (b) As an alternative to any provision in s. 120.57(3)(c), the department may proceed with the competitive bid solicitation or contract award process of a term contract bid when the secretary of the department or his or her designee sets forth in writing particular facts and circumstances which demonstrate that the delay incident to staying the solicitation bid process or contract award process would be detrimental to the interests of the state. After the award of a contract resulting from a competitive solicitation bid in which a timely protest was received and in which the state did not prevail, the contract may be canceled and reawarded to the prevailing party.
- (c) 1. Any person who files an action protesting an $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ decision or intended decision pertaining to contracts administered by the department, a water management district, or $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ state agency pursuant to s. 120.57(3)(b) shall post with the department, the water management district, or the

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state agency at the time of filing the formal written protest a bond payable to the department, the water management district, or the state agency in an amount equal to 1 percent of the department's, the water management district's, or the state agency's estimate of the total volume of the contract. The or \$5,000, whichever is less, which bond shall be conditioned upon the payment of all costs which may be adjudged against him or her in the administrative hearing in which the action is brought and in any subsequent appellate court proceeding. The estimate of the total volume of the contract shall be based on the protesting vendor's price as included in its bid, proposal, or reply or, if the protesting party did not submit a bid, proposal, or reply the agency may estimate the contract amount based on previous or existing contract amounts for similar commodities or services. estimated amount is not subject to protest.

- 2. For protests of decisions or intended decisions of the department pertaining to agencies' requests for approval of exceptional purchases, the bond shall be in an amount equal to 1 percent of the requesting agency's estimate of the contract amount for the exceptional purchase requested or 22 \$5,000, whichever is less. The estimate of the total volume of the contract shall be based on the price submitted by the selected vendor in its bid, proposal, or reply. This estimated amount is not subject to protest.
- 3. In lieu of a bond, the department, the water management district, or state agency may, in either case, accept a cashier's check, or money order, or other official bank check in the amount of the bond. If, after completion of the administrative hearing process and any appellate court 31 proceedings, the department, water management district, or

agency prevails, it shall recover all costs and charges which shall be included in the final order or judgment, excluding attorney's fees. The prevailing party shall be entitled to recover attorney's fees. This section shall not apply to protests filed by the Office of Supplier Diversity. Upon payment of such costs and charges by the person protesting the award, the bond, cashier's check, or money order, or other official bank check shall be returned to him or her. If the person protesting the award prevails, he or she shall recover from the department, agency, or water management district, all costs and charges which shall be included in the final order of judgment, excluding attorney's fees.

- (d) The terms, conditions, and specifications of a request for proposal, request for quote, invitation to bid, or invitation to negotiate, including any provisions governing the methods for ranking proposals, awarding contracts, reserving rights of further negotiation, or the modification of amendment of any contract, are subject to challenge only by filing a protest within 72 hours after the notice of the terms, conditions, or specifications as provided in s. 120.57(3)(b).
- (3) To have general supervision, through the state agencies, of all storerooms and stores operated by the agencies and to have supervision of inventories of all commodities belonging to the state agencies. The duties imposed by this section do not relieve any state agency from accountability for commodities under its control.
- (3)(4) To establish a system of coordinated, uniform procurement policies, procedures, and practices to be used by agencies in acquiring commodities and contractual services, which shall include, but not be limited to:

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- (a) Development of a list of interested vendors to be maintained by classes of commodities and contractual services. This list shall not be used to prequalify vendors or to exclude any interested vendor from bidding.
- (b) Development of procedures for advertising solicitations. Such the releasing of requests for proposals, requests for quotes, invitations to bid, invitations to negotiate, and other competitive acquisitions which procedures shall include, but are not limited to, notice by publication in the Florida Administrative Weekly, by electronic publication on Government Services Direct, or by mail, by facsimile, or by other means established by rule. Notice shall be given at least 10 days before the date set for submittal of proposals, or replies, unless the department or agency demonstrates in writing that a shorter period of time is necessary to avoid harming the interests of the state. The Office of Supplier Diversity may consult with the department and agencies regarding the development of solicitation bid distribution procedures to ensure that maximum distribution is afforded to certified minority business enterprises as defined in s. 288.703.
- (c) Development of procedures for the receipt and opening of bids, responses, quotes, or proposals, or replies by an agency. Such procedures shall provide the Office of Supplier Diversity an opportunity to monitor and ensure that the contract award is consistent with the requirements of s. 287.09451.
- (d) Development of procedures to be used by an agency in deciding to contract, including, but not limited to, identifying and assessing in writing project needs and 31 requirements, availability of agency employees, budgetary

constraints or availability, facility equipment availability, current and projected agency workload capabilities, and the ability of any other state agency to perform the services.

- (e) Development of procedures to be used by an agency in maintaining a contract file for each contract which shall include, but not be limited to, all pertinent information relating to the contract during the preparatory stages; a copy of the solicitation; invitation to bid or request for proposals, documentation relating to the solicitation bid process; opening of bids, proposals, or replies; evaluation and tabulation of bids; and determination and notice of award of contract.
- (f) Development of procedures to be used by an agency for issuing solicitations invitations to bid, invitations to negotiate, requests for proposal, requests for quote, or other competitive procurement processes that include requirements to describe commodities, services, scope of work, and deliverables in a manner that promotes competition.
- (g) Development of procedures to be used by an agency when issuing requests for information and requests for quotes.
- (4)(5)(a) To prescribe the methods of securing competitive sealed bids, responses, quotes, and proposals, and replies. Such methods may include, but are not limited to, procedures for identifying vendors; setting qualifications; conducting conferences or written question and answer periods for purposes of responding to vendor's questions; evaluating responses, bids, and proposals, and replies; ranking respondents and proposers; selecting vendors invitees and proposers; and conducting negotiations.
- (b) To prescribe, in consultation with the State Technology Office, procedures for procuring information

technology and information technology consultant services which provide for public announcement and qualification, competitive solicitations, negotiations selection, competitive negotiation, contract award, and prohibition against contingent fees. Such procedures shall be limited to information technology consultant contracts for which the total project costs, or planning or study activities, are estimated to exceed the threshold amount provided for in s. 287.017, for CATEGORY TWO.

(5) (6) To prescribe specific commodities and quantities to be purchased locally.

 $\underline{(6)}(7)$ (a) To govern the purchase by any agency of any commodity or contractual service and to establish standards and specifications for any commodity.

(b) Except for the purchase of insurance, the department may delegate to agencies the authority for the <u>procurement of and contracting for, or the purchase, lease, or acquisition of, commodities or contractual services.</u>

(7)(8) To establish definitions and classes of commodities and contractual services. Agencies shall follow the definitions and classes of commodities and contractual services established by the department in acquiring or purchasing commodities or contractual services. The authority of the department under this section shall not be construed to impair or interfere with the determination by state agencies of their need for, or their use of, services including particular specifications.

(8)(9) To provide furnish copies of any commodity and contractual service purchasing rules to the Comptroller and all agencies, through an electronic medium or other means affected thereby. The Comptroller shall not approve any

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account or direct any payment of any account for the purchase of any commodity or the procurement of any contractual service covered by a purchasing or contractual service rule except as authorized therein. The department shall furnish copies of rules adopted by the department to any county, municipality, or other local public agency requesting them.

(9)(10) To require that every agency furnish information relative to its commodity and contractual services purchases and methods of purchasing commodities and contractual services to the department when so requested.

(10)(11) To prepare statistical data concerning the method of procurement, terms, usage, and disposition of commodities and contractual services by state agencies. All agencies shall furnish such information for this purpose to the office and to the department, as the department or office may call for, but no less frequently than annually, on such forms or in such manner as the department may prescribe.

(11)(12) To establish and maintain programs for the purpose of disseminating information to government, industry, educational institutions, and the general public concerning policies, procedures, rules, and forms for the procurement of commodities and contractual services.

(12)(13) Except as otherwise provided herein, to adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including the authority to delegate to any state agency any and all of the responsibility conferred by this section, retaining to the department any and all authority for supervision thereof. Such purchasing of commodities and procurement of contractual services by state agencies shall be in strict accordance with the rules and procedures prescribed 31 by the department of Management Services.

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(13) (14) If the department determines that it is in the best interest of the state, to award to multiple suppliers contracts for commodities and contractual services established by the department for use by all agencies. Such awards may be on a statewide or regional basis. If regional contracts are established by the department, multiple supplier awards may be based upon multiple awards for regions. Agencies may award contracts to the responsible and lowest qualified responsive vendor bidder on a statewide or regional basis.

(14)(15) To procure and distribute state-owned surplus tangible personal property and federal surplus tangible personal property allocated to the state by the Federal Government.

 $(15)\frac{(16)}{(16)}$ (a) To enter into joint agreements with governmental agencies, as defined in s. 163.3164(10), for the purpose of pooling funds for the purchase of commodities or information technology that can be used by multiple agencies. However, the department shall consult with the State Technology Office on joint agreements that involve the purchase of information technology. Agencies entering into joint purchasing agreements with the department or the State Technology Office shall authorize the department or the State Technology Office to contract for such purchases on their behalf.

(b) Each agency that has been appropriated or has existing funds for such purchases, shall, upon contract award by the department, transfer their portion of the funds into the department's Grants and Donations Trust Fund for payment by the department. These funds shall be transferred by the Executive Office of the Governor pursuant to the agency budget 31 amendment request provisions in chapter 216.

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(c) Agencies that sign such joint agreements are financially obligated for their portion of the agreed-upon funds. If any agency becomes more than 90 days delinquent in paying such funds, the department of Management Services shall certify to the Comptroller the amount due, and the Comptroller shall transfer the amount due to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the department from any of the agency's available funds. The Comptroller shall report all such transfers and the reasons for such transfers to the Executive Office of the Governor and the legislative appropriations committees.

 $(16)\frac{(17)}{(17)}$ (a) To evaluate contracts let by the Federal Government, another state, or a political subdivision for the provision of commodities and contract services, and, when it is determined to be cost-effective and in the best interest of the state, to enter into a written agreement authorizing a state agency to make purchases under a contract approved by the department and let by the Federal Government, another state, or a political subdivision.

(b) For contracts pertaining to the provision of information technology, the State Technology Office, in consultation with the department, shall assess the technological needs of a particular agency, evaluate the contracts, and determine whether to enter into a written agreement with the letting federal, state, or political subdivision body to provide information technology for a particular agency.

Section 8. Section 287.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.045 Procurement of products and materials with 31 recycled content.--

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- (1)(a) The department of Management Services, in cooperation with the Department of Environmental Protection, shall review and revise existing procurement procedures and specifications for the purchase of products and materials to eliminate any procedures and specifications that explicitly discriminate against products and materials with recycled content except where such procedures and specifications are necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.
- (b) Each state agency shall review and revise its procurement procedures and specifications for the purchase of products and materials to eliminate any procedures and specifications that explicitly discriminate against products and materials with recycled content, except if such procedures and specifications are necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.
- (2)(a) The department and other agencies each state agency shall review and revise their its procurement procedures and specifications for the purchase of products and materials to ensure to the maximum extent feasible that each agency uses state contracts to purchase products or materials that may be recycled or reused when these products or materials are discarded.
- (b) The Auditor General shall assist in monitoring the product procurement requirements.
- (3) As part of the review and revision required in subsection (2), the department and other agencies each agency shall review their its procurement provisions and specifications for the purchase of products and materials to determine which products or materials with recycled content could be procured by the department or other agencies and the 31 amount of recycled content that can technologically be

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contained in such products or materials. The department and other agencies must use the amounts of recycled content and postconsumer recovered material determined by the department in issuing solicitations invitations to bid for contracts for the purchase of such products or materials.

- (4) Upon completion of the review required in subsection (3), the department or other agencies an agency shall require that a person who submits a bid, proposal, or reply for a contract for the purchase of products or materials identified in subsection (3) and who wishes to be considered for the price preference described in subsection (5) certify in writing the percentage of recycled content in the product or material that is subject to the bid, proposal, or reply. A person may certify that the product or material contains no recycled content.
- (5) Upon evaluation of bids, proposals, or replies for every public contract that involves the purchase of products or materials identified in subsection (3), the department or other an agency shall identify the lowest responsible and responsive vendor bidder and other responsible and responsive vendors bidders who have certified that the products or materials contain at least the minimum percentage of recycled content and postconsumer recovered material that is set forth in the solicitation invitation for the bids. The department or agency may consider life-cycle costing when evaluating a bid, proposal, or reply on a product that consists of recycled materials. The department shall adopt rules that specify the criteria to be used when considering life-cycle costing in evaluating bids, proposals, and replies. The rules must take into consideration the specified warranty periods for products 31 and the comparative expected service life relative to the cost

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30 31 of the products. In awarding a contract for the purchase of products or materials, the department or other an agency may allow up to a 10-percent price preference to a responsible and responsive vendor bidder who has certified that the products or materials contain at least the minimum percentage of recycled content and postconsumer recovered material and up to an additional 5-percent price preference to a responsible and responsive vendor bidder who has certified that the products or material are made of materials recovered in this state. The amount of the price preference must be commensurate with the certified amounts of recycled material and postconsumer recovered material and materials recycled from products in this state, contained in the product or materials on a sliding scale as established by department rule, which rule shall not become effective prior to November 1, 1994. Reusable materials and products shall be used where economically and technically feasible. If no vendors bidders offer products or materials with measurable life-cycle costing factors or the minimum prescribed recycled and postconsumer content, the contract must be awarded to the lowest qualified responsible and responsive vendor bidder.

(6) For the purposes of this section, "recycled content" means materials that have been recycled that are contained in the products or materials to be procured, including, but not limited to, paper, aluminum, steel, glass, plastics, and composted material. The term does not include the virgin component of internally generated scrap that is commonly used in industrial or manufacturing processes or such waste or scrap purchased from another manufacturer who manufactures the same or a closely related product. Recycled

content printing and fine writing grades of paper shall contain at least 10 percent postconsumer recovered materials.

- (7) Any person may request the department to evaluate a product or material with recycled content if the product or material is eligible for inclusion under state contracts. The department shall review each reasonable proposal to determine its merit and, if it finds that the product or material may be used beneficially, it may incorporate that product or material into its procurement procedures.
- (8) The department and other agencies each state agency shall review and revise their its procedures and specifications on a continuing basis to encourage the use of products and materials with recycled content and postconsumer recovered material and shall, in developing new procedures and specifications, encourage the use of products and materials with recycled content and postconsumer recovered material.
- (9) After November 1, 1994, the department may discontinue contracting for products or materials the recycled content of which does not meet the requirements of subsection (3) if it determines that products or materials meeting those requirements are available at a cost not to exceed an additional 10 percent of comparable virgin products.
- with such agency with respect to work performed under contract, must procure products or materials with recycled content if the department determines that those products or materials are available pursuant to subsection (5). Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, for the purpose of this section, the term "agency" means any of the various state officers, departments, boards, commissions, divisions, bureaus, and councils and any other unit of

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organization, however designated, of the executive branch including the Department of the Lottery, the legislative branch, the judicial branch, and the State University and College Boards of Trustees, and state universities and colleges System. A decision not to procure such items must be based on the department's determination that such procurement is not reasonably available within an acceptable period of time or fails to meet the performance standards set forth in the applicable specifications or fails to meet the performance standards of the agency.

(11) Each state agency shall report annually to the department its total expenditures on, and use of, products with recycled content and the percentage of its budget that represents purchases of similar products made from virgin materials. The department shall design a uniform reporting mechanism and prepare annual summaries of statewide purchases delineating those with recycled content to be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 9. Section 287.056, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.056 Agency Purchases from state term agreements and contracts procured executed by the department. --

- (1) Agencies shall, and eligible users may, purchase commodities and contractual services from the purchasing agreements established and state term contracts procured negotiated and executed by the department, pursuant to this chapter as authorized in s. 287.042(2).
- (2) Agencies may have the option to purchase commodities or contractual services from state term any 31 written agreements or contracts procured negotiated and

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executed by the department, pursuant to this chapter, which contain a user surcharge pursuant to s. 287.1345 or such other agreements as determined by the department.

(3) Agencies and eligible users may use a request for quote to obtain written pricing or service information from a state term contract vendor for commodities or contractual services available on state term contract from that vendor. The purpose of a request for quote shall be to determine whether a price lower than the state term contract price is available. Use of a request for quote shall not constitute an agency decision subject to protest under s. 120.57(3).

Section 10. Section 287.057, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.057 Procurement of commodities or contractual services.--

(1)(a) Unless otherwise authorized by law, all contracts for the purchase of commodities or contractual services in excess of the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO shall be awarded by competitive sealed bidding. An invitation to bid shall be made available simultaneously to all vendors and issued which shall include a detailed description of the commodities or contractual services sought; the time and date for the receipt submittal of bids and of the public opening; and all contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement of commodities or contractual services, including the criteria which shall include, but need not be limited to, price, to be used in determining acceptability of the bid. If the agency contemplates renewal of the contract, it shall be so stated in the invitation to bid. The bid shall include the price for 31 each year for which the contract may be renewed. Evaluation of

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bids shall include consideration of the total cost for each year as $\underline{\text{submitted}}$ $\underline{\text{quoted}}$ by the $\underline{\text{vendor}}$ $\underline{\text{bidder}}$. No Criteria $\underline{\text{may be used in determining acceptability of the bid}}$ that $\underline{\text{were}}$ $\underline{\text{was}}$ not set forth in the invitation to bid $\underline{\text{may not be used in}}$ determining responsiveness of the bid.

(b) The contract shall be awarded with reasonable promptness by written notice to the <u>responsible qualified</u> and responsive <u>vendor that</u> bidder who submits the lowest responsive bid. This bid must be determined in writing to meet the requirements and criteria set forth in the invitation to bid.

(2)(a) When an agency determines in writing that the use of competitive sealed bidding is not practicable, commodities or contractual services shall be procured by competitive sealed proposals. A request for proposals shall be made available simultaneously to all vendors and shall include which includes a statement of the commodities or contractual services sought, the time and date for the receipt of proposals and of the public opening, and all contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement of commodities or contractual services, including the criteria, which shall include, but need not be limited to, price, to be used in determining acceptability of the proposal shall be issued. The relative importance of price and other evaluation criteria shall be indicated. If the agency contemplates renewal of the commodities or contractual services contract, it shall be so stated in the request for proposals. proposal shall include the price for each year for which the contract may be renewed. Evaluation of proposals shall include consideration of the total cost for each year as submitted quoted by the vendor offeror. To assure full

understanding of and responsiveness to the solicitation requirements, discussions may be conducted with qualified offerors. The offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment prior to the submittal date specified in the request for proposals with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of proposals.

- (b) The contract award shall be awarded made to the responsible and responsive vendor offeror whose proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to the state, taking into consideration the price and the other criteria set forth in the request for proposals. The contract file shall contain documentation supporting the basis on which the award is made.
- (3)(a) If the an agency determines in writing that the use of an invitation to bid or a request for a proposal will not result in the best value to the state, based on factors including, but not limited to, price, quality, design, and workmanship, the agency may procure commodities and contractual services by an invitation to negotiate. The agency's written determination shall specify reasons that explain why negotiation may be necessary for the state to achieve the best value. An invitation to negotiate shall be made available to all vendors simultaneously and shall include a statement of the commodities or contractual services sought, the time and date for the receipt of replies and of the public opening, and all terms and conditions applicable to the procurement, including the criteria to be used in determining the responsiveness of the reply.
- (b) The agency shall evaluate and rank responsive replies against all evaluation criteria set forth in the invitation to negotiate, and shall select, based on the

ranking, one or more vendors with which to commence
negotiations. After negotiations are conducted, the agency
shall award the contract to the responsible and responsive
vendor that the agency determines in writing will provide the
best value to the state. The contract file shall contain
documentation supporting the basis on which the award is made.

An agency may procure commodities and contractual services by
a request for a quote from vendors under contract with the
department.

- (4) Prior to the award of contract, an agency may conduct a conference or written question and answer period.

 The vendors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of bids, proposals, or replies.
- established for the receipt of bids, proposals, or replies, that it is necessary to change the requirements or any term or condition contained in a solicitation, the agency shall amend the solicitation and shall make the amendments available simultaneously to all vendors. When amending a solicitation, the agency shall consider whether the time established for the submittal of bids, proposals, or replies should be extended in order to provide prospective vendors with sufficient time to consider the amendment in submitting or modifying their bids, proposals, or replies. Notice of amendments to a solicitation shall be provided by publication in Florida Administrative Weekly or by electronic publication, mail, facsimile, or other means established by rule. All solicitations shall specify the manner in which notice of amendments will be provided.
- $\underline{(6)}$ (4) When the purchase price of commodities or contractual services exceeds the threshold amount provided in

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s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO, no purchase of commodities or contractual services may be made without receiving competitive sealed bids, competitive sealed proposals, or replies responses to an invitation to negotiate or a request for a quote unless:

- (a) The agency head determines in writing that an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare or other substantial loss to the state requires emergency action. After the agency head makes such a written determination, the agency may proceed with the procurement of commodities or contractual services necessitated by the immediate danger, without receiving competitive sealed bids, proposals, or replies competition. However, such emergency procurement shall be made with as much such competition as possible is practicable under the circumstances. The agency shall furnish copies of all the written determinations determination certified under oath and any other documents relating to the emergency action to the department. A copy of the statement shall be furnished to the Comptroller with the voucher authorizing payment. The individual purchase of personal clothing, shelter, or supplies which are needed on an emergency basis to avoid institutionalization or placement in a more restrictive setting is an emergency for the purposes of this paragraph, and the filing with the department of such statement is not required in such circumstances. In the case of the emergency purchase of insurance, the period of coverage of such insurance shall not exceed a period of 30 days, and all such emergency purchases shall be reported to the department.
- (b) The purchase is made by an agency from a state term contract procured pursuant to this chapter Purchasing

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agreements and contracts executed by the department or by agencies under authority delegated in writing by the department in writing are excepted from bid requirements.

(c) The commodities or contractual services are available only from a single source. For contracts may be excepted from the bid requirements if it is determined that such commodities or services are available only from a single source and such determination is documented. However, if such contract is for an amount greater than the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY FOUR, the agency shall obtain department approval before entering into the contract. The agency shall initiate the request for approval in a form prescribed by the department, which may be electronic. The department shall provide by rule for centralized electronic posting of all such requests for not less than 7 days, during which period potential competitors may review the proposed procurement and assess whether market conditions justify proceeding with a single source. An interested competitor objecting to the procurement shall file a notice of protest with the agency within 10 days after the request is first posted. If a protest is filed, award of the contract shall be stayed until the protest is resolved, subject to s. 120.57(3)(c). If no protest is filed, the department shall respond to the agency's request for approval within 14 days after expiration of the protest period. head shall file a certification of conditions and circumstances with the department and shall obtain the prior approval of the department. The failure of the department to approve or disapprove the request of an agency for prior approval within 21 days after receiving such request or within 14 days after 31 receiving from the agency additional materials requested by

the department shall constitute prior approval of the department. To the greatest extent practicable, but no later than 45 days after authorizing the exception in writing, the department shall combine single-source procurement authorizations for identical information technology resources for which the purchase price exceeds the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY FOUR, and shall negotiate and execute volume purchasing agreements for such procurements on behalf of the agencies.

- (d) When it is in the best interest of the state, the secretary of the department Management Services or his or her designee may authorize the Support Program to purchase insurance by negotiation, but such purchase shall be made only under conditions most favorable to the public interest.
- (e) Prescriptive assistive devices for the purpose of medical, developmental, or vocational rehabilitation of clients are excepted from competitive solicitation sealed bid and competitive sealed proposal requirements and shall be procured pursuant to an established fee schedule or by any other method which ensures the best price for the state, taking into consideration the needs of the client.

 Prescriptive assistive devices include, but are not limited to, prosthetics, orthotics, and wheelchairs. For purchases made pursuant to this paragraph, state agencies shall annually file with the department a description of the purchases and methods of procurement.
- (f) The following contractual services and commodities are not subject to the competitive <u>solicitation</u> sealed bid requirements of this section:
 - 1. Artistic services.
 - 2. Academic program reviews.

- 3. Lectures by individuals.
- 4. Auditing services.

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- Legal services, including attorney, paralegal, expert witness, appraisal, or mediator services.
- 6. Health services involving examination, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, medical consultation, or administration.
- Services provided to persons with mental or physical disabilities by not-for-profit corporations which have obtained exemptions under the provisions of s. 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code or when such services are governed by the provisions of Office of Management and Budget Circular A-122. However, in acquiring such services, the agency shall consider the ability of the vendor contractor, past performance, willingness to meet time requirements, and price.
- 8. Medicaid services delivered to an eligible Medicaid recipient by a health care provider who has not previously applied for and received a Medicaid provider number from the Agency for Health Care Administration. However, this exception shall be valid for a period not to exceed 90 days after the date of delivery to the Medicaid recipient and shall not be renewed by the agency.
 - 9. Family placement services.
- 10. Prevention services related to mental health, including drug abuse prevention programs, child abuse prevention programs, and shelters for runaways, operated by not-for-profit corporations. However, in acquiring such services, the agency shall consider the ability of the vendor contractor, past performance, willingness to meet time 31 requirements, and price.

- 11. Training and education services provided to injured employees pursuant to s. 440.49(1).
 - 12. Contracts entered into pursuant to s. 337.11.
- 13. Services or commodities provided by governmental agencies.
- (g) Continuing education events or programs that are offered to the general public and for which fees have been collected that pay all expenses associated with the event or program are exempt from requirements for competitive solicitation sealed-bidding.

<u>(7)(5)</u> If less than two responsive bids, or proposals, or replies for commodity or contractual services purchases are received, the department or the agency may negotiate on the best terms and conditions. The <u>department or</u> agency shall document the reasons that such action is in the best interest of the state in lieu of resoliciting competitive sealed bids, or proposals, or replies. The agency shall report all such actions to the department on a quarterly basis, in a manner and form prescribed by the department.

(8)(6) Upon issuance of any solicitation invitation to bid or request for proposals, an agency shall, upon request by the department, forward to the department one copy of each solicitation invitation to bid or request for proposals for all commodity and contractual services purchases in excess of the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO. An agency shall also, upon request, furnish a copy of all competitive solicitation sealed bid or competitive sealed proposal tabulations. The Office of Supplier Diversity may also request from the agencies any information submitted to the department pursuant to this subsection.

 (9)(7)(a) In order to strive to meet the minority business enterprise procurement goals set forth in s. 287.09451, an agency may reserve any contract for competitive solicitation sealed bidding only among certified minority business enterprises. Agencies shall review all their contracts each fiscal year and shall determine which contracts may be reserved for solicitation bidding only among certified minority business enterprises. This reservation may only be used when it is determined, by reasonable and objective means, before the solicitation invitation to bid that there are capable, qualified certified minority business enterprises available to submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract to provide for effective competition. The Office of Supplier Diversity shall consult with any agency in reaching such determination when deemed appropriate.

(b) Before a contract may be reserved for solicitation bidding only among by certified minority business enterprises, the agency head must find that such a reservation is in the best interests of the state. All determinations shall be subject to s. 287.09451(5). Once a decision has been made to reserve a contract, but before sealed bids, proposals, or replies are requested, the agency shall estimate what it expects the amount of the contract to be, based on the nature of the services or commodities involved and their value under prevailing market conditions. If all the sealed bids, proposals, or replies received are over this estimate, the agency may reject the bids, proposals, or replies and request new ones from certified minority business enterprises, or the agency may reject the bids, proposals, or replies and reopen the bidding to all eligible vendors qualified bidders.

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- (c) All agencies shall consider the use of price preferences of up to 10 percent, weighted preference formulas, or other preferences for vendors contractors as determined appropriate pursuant to guidelines established in accordance with s. 287.09451(4) to increase the participation of minority business enterprises.
- (d) All agencies shall avoid any undue concentration of contracts or purchases in categories of commodities or contractual services in order to meet the minority business enterprise purchasing goals in s. 287.09451.

(10)(8) An agency may reserve any contract for competitive solicitation sealed bidding only among qualified vendors bidders who agree to use utilize certified minority business enterprises as subcontractors or subvendors. The percentage of funds, in terms of gross contract amount and revenues, which must be expended with the certified minority business enterprise subcontractors and subvendors shall be determined by the agency before such contracts may be reserved. In order to bid on a contract so reserved, the vendor qualified bidder shall identify those certified minority business enterprises which will be utilized as subcontractors or subvendors by sworn statement. At the time of performance or project completion, the contractor shall report by sworn statement the payments and completion of work for all certified minority business enterprises used in the contract.

 $\underline{(11)}(9)$ An agency shall not divide the procurement of commodities or contractual services so as to avoid the requirements of subsections (1)–(6), (2), and (3).

 $\underline{\text{(12)}}$ (10) A contract for commodities or contractual services may be awarded without competition if state or

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federal law prescribes with whom the agency must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriations process.

(13) (11) If two equal responses to a solicitation an invitation to bid or a request for quote proposals are received and one response is from a certified minority business enterprise, the agency shall enter into a contract with the certified minority business enterprise.

(14) (14) Extension of a contract for contractual services shall be in writing for a period not to exceed 6 months and shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in the initial contract. There shall be only one extension of a contract unless the failure to meet the criteria set forth in the contract for completion of the contract is due to events beyond the control of the contractor.

(15)(13) Except for those contracts initially procured pursuant to paragraph(6)(3)(a) or paragraph(6)(3)(c), contracts for commodities or contractual services may be renewed upon mutual written agreement, provided the period of renewal shall not exceed the longer of 3 years or the original contract term on a yearly basis for no more than 2 years or for a period no longer than the term of the original contract, whichever period is longer. Renewal of a contract for commodities or contractual services shall be in writing and shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in the original initial contract. If the commodity or contractual service is purchased as a result of the solicitation of bids or proposals, the cost of any contemplated renewals shall be included in the invitation to 31 bid or request for proposals. If the original contract

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resulted from a competitive solicitation, the renewal contract shall not include compensation for any costs associated with the renewal. Renewals shall be contingent upon satisfactory performance evaluations by the agency. Exceptional purchase contracts pursuant to s. 287.057(6)(a) and (c) may not be renewed.

(16)(14) For each contractual services contract, the agency shall designate an employee to function as contract manager who shall be responsible for enforcing performance of the contract terms and conditions and serve as a liaison with the contractor. The agency shall establish procedures to ensure that contractual services have been rendered in accordance with the contract terms prior to processing the invoice for payment.

(17)(15) Each agency shall designate at least one employee who shall serve as a contract administrator responsible for maintaining a contract file and financial information on all contractual services contracts and who shall serve as a liaison with the contract managers and the department.

(18)(16) For requests for proposals and invitations to negotiate, a selection teams team of at least three employees who have experience and knowledge in the program areas and service requirements for which contractual services are sought shall be appointed by the agency head to aid in the selection of contractors for contracts of more than the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY FOUR.

(19) (17) No person who receives a contract which has not been procured pursuant to subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (3) to perform a feasibility study of the 31 potential implementation of a subsequent contract,

participating in the drafting of <u>a solicitation</u> an invitation to bid or request for proposals, or developing a program for future implementation shall be eligible to contract with the agency for any other contracts dealing with that specific subject matter; nor shall any firm in which such person has any interest be eligible to receive such contract. However, this prohibition shall not prevent a vendor who replies to a request for information from being eligible to contract with an agency.

(20)(18) Each agency shall establish a review and approval process for all contractual services contracts costing more than the threshold amount provided for in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY THREE which shall include, but not be limited to, program, financial, and legal review and approval. Such reviews and approvals shall be obtained before the contract is executed.

(19) The department may establish state contractual service term contracts. Such contracts may be utilized by any agency, county, municipality, or local public agency.

(21)(20) In any procurement that is accomplished without competition, the individuals taking part in the development or selection of criteria for evaluation, the evaluation process, and the award process shall attest in writing that they are independent of, and have no conflict of interest in, the entities evaluated and selected.

(22)(21) Nothing in this section shall affect the validity or effect of any contract in existence on October 1, 1990.

 $\underline{(23)(22)}$ An agency may contract for services with any independent, nonprofit college or university which is located within the state and is accredited by the Southern Association

of Colleges and Schools, on the same basis as it may contract with any $\frac{1}{2}$ in the state university $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ college $\frac{1}{2}$ System.

(24)(23)(a) The department, in consultation with the State Technology Office, shall develop a program for on-line procurement of commodities and contractual services. To enable the state to promote open competition and to leverage its buying power, executive state agencies shall participate in the on-line procurement program, and eligible users other agencies may participate in the program. Only vendors bidders prequalified as meeting mandatory requirements and qualifications criteria shall be permitted to participate in on-line procurement. The department, in consultation with the State Technology Office, may contract for equipment and services necessary to develop and implement on-line procurement.

- (b) The State Technology Office, in consultation with the department, in consultation with the State Technology Office, shall adopt rules, pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, to implement the program for on-line procurement. The rules shall include, but not be limited to:
- 1. Determining the requirements and qualification criteria for prequalifying <u>vendors</u> bidders.
- 2. Establishing the procedures for conducting on-line procurement.
- 3. Establishing the criteria for eligible commodities and contractual services.
- 4. Establishing the procedures for providing access to on-line procurement.
- 5. Determining the criteria warranting any exceptions to participation in the on-line procurement program.

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- The department of Management Services and the State Technology Office may collect fees for the use of the on-line procurement systems. The fees may be imposed on an individual transaction basis or as a fixed percentage of the cost savings generated. At a minimum, the fees must be set in an amount sufficient to cover the projected costs of such services, including administrative and project service costs in accordance with the policies of the department of Management Services and the State Technology Office. For the purposes of compensating the provider, the department may authorize the provider to collect and retain a portion of the fees. The providers may withhold the portion retained from the amount of fees to be remitted to the department. The department may establish negotiate the retainage as a percentage of such fees charged to users, as a flat amount, or as any other method the department deems feasible. All fees and surcharges collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the Grants and Donation Trust Fund as provided by law.
- (25) $\frac{(24)}{(24)}$ (a) The State Technology Office shall establish, in consultation with the department, state strategic information technology alliances for the acquisition and use of information technology and related material with prequalified contractors or partners to provide the state with efficient, cost-effective, and advanced information technology.
- In consultation with and under contract to the State Technology Office, the state strategic information technology alliances shall design, develop, and deploy projects providing the information technology needed to 31 collect, store, and process the state's data and information,

provide connectivity, and integrate and standardize computer networks and information systems of the state.

- (c) The partners in the state strategic information technology alliances shall be industry leaders with demonstrated experience in the public and private sectors.
- (d) The State Technology Office, in consultation with the department of Management Services, shall adopt rules, pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, to implement the state strategic information technology alliances.

Section 11. Section 287.0572, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.0572 Present-value methodology.--

- (1) The cost of bids, or proposals, or replies for state contracts which require the payment of money for more than 1 year and include provisions for unequal payment streams or unequal time payment periods shall be evaluated using present-value methodology. Each agency, as defined in s. 287.012(1), shall perform the evaluation using the present-value discount rate supplied by the department of Management Services. The present-value discount rate shall be the rate for United States Treasury notes and bonds published in the Interest Rates: Money and Capital Markets section of the most recent copy of the Federal Reserve Bulletin published at the time of issuance of the request for proposals, invitation to negotiate, or the invitation invitations to bid.
- (2) The department $\frac{1}{2}$ of Management Services may adopt rules to implement the provisions of subsection (1).

Section 12. Section 287.058, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.058 Contract document.--

- (1) Every procurement of contractual services in excess of the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO, except for the providing of health and mental health services or drugs in the examination, diagnosis, or treatment of sick or injured state employees or the providing of other benefits as required by the provisions of chapter 440, shall be evidenced by a written agreement embodying all provisions and conditions of the procurement of such services, which provisions and conditions shall, where applicable, include, but shall not be limited to:
- (a) A provision that bills for fees or other compensation for services or expenses be submitted in detail sufficient for a proper preaudit and postaudit thereof.
- (b) A provision that bills for any travel expenses be submitted in accordance with s. 112.061. A state agency may establish rates lower than the maximum provided in s. 112.061.
- (c) A provision allowing unilateral cancellation by the agency for refusal by the contractor to allow public access to all documents, papers, letters, or other material made or received by the contractor in conjunction with the contract, unless the records are exempt from s. 24(a) of Art. I of the State Constitution and s. 119.07(1).
- (d) A provision dividing the contract into units of deliverables, which shall include, but not be limited to, reports, findings, and drafts, that must be received and accepted in writing by the contract manager prior to payment.
- (e) A provision specifying the criteria and the final date by which such criteria must be met for completion of the contract.
- (f) A provision specifying that the contract may be renewed upon mutual written agreement, provided the period of

renewal shall not exceed the longer of 3 years or the original contract term, except for those contracts initially procured pursuant to s. 287.057(6)(a) or (c). Renewal of a contract shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in the original contract. Renewals shall be contingent upon satisfactory performance evaluations by the agency.A provision specifying that the contract may be renewed on a yearly basis for a period of up to 2 years after the initial contract or for a period no longer than the term of the original contract, whichever period is longer, specifying the terms under which the cost may change as determined in the invitation to bid or request for proposals, and specifying that renewals shall be contingent upon satisfactory performance evaluations by the agency and subject to the availability of funds.

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In lieu of a written agreement, the department may authorize the use of a purchase order for classes of contractual services, provided the provisions of paragraphs (a)-(f) are included in the purchase order or solicitation, invitation to bid, or request for proposals. The purchase order shall include, but need not be limited to, an adequate description of the services, the contract period, and the method of payment. In lieu of printing the provisions of paragraphs $(a)-(e)\frac{(f)}{(f)}$ in the contract document or purchase order, agencies may incorporate the requirements of paragraphs $(a)-(e)\frac{(f)}{(f)}$ by reference.

(2) The written agreement shall be signed by the agency head and the contractor prior to the rendering of any contractual service the value of which is in excess of the 31 threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO,

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except in the case of a valid emergency as certified by the agency head. The certification of an emergency shall be prepared within 30 days after the contractor begins rendering the service and shall state the particular facts and circumstances which precluded the execution of the written agreement prior to the rendering of the service. agency fails to have the contract signed by the agency head and the contractor prior to rendering the contractual service, and if an emergency does not exist, the agency head shall, no later than 30 days after the contractor begins rendering the service, certify the specific conditions and circumstances to the department as well as describe actions taken to prevent recurrence of such noncompliance. The agency head may delegate the certification only to other senior management agency personnel. A copy of the certification shall be furnished to the Comptroller with the voucher authorizing payment. The department shall report repeated instances of noncompliance by an agency to the Auditor General. Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to authorize additional compensation prohibited by s. 215.425. The procurement of contractual services shall not be divided so as to avoid the provisions of this section.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) and (2), in those cases in which state agencies are unable to procure a written agreement for the providing of health and mental health services or drugs in the examination, diagnosis, or treatment of sick or injured persons in the care or custody of a state agency, those services and drugs may be obtained by purchase order. The purchase order shall contain sufficient detail for a proper audit and shall be signed by purchasing or 31 contracting personnel acting on behalf of the agency.

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- Every procurement of contractual services of the value of the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO or less, except for the providing of health and mental health services or drugs in the examination, diagnosis, or treatment of sick or injured state employees or the providing of other benefits as required by the provisions of chapter 440, shall be evidenced by a written agreement or purchase order. The written agreement or purchase order shall contain sufficient detail for a proper audit, shall be signed by purchasing or contracting personnel acting on behalf of the agency, and may contain the provisions and conditions provided in subsection (1).
- (5) Unless otherwise provided in the General Appropriations Act or the substantive bill implementing the General Appropriations Act, the Comptroller may waive the requirements of this section for services which are included in s. $287.057(6)\frac{(4)}{(f)}$.

Section 13. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 287.059, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.059 Private attorney services.--

- (2) No agency shall contract for private attorney services without the prior written approval of the Attorney General, except that such written approval is not required for private attorney services:
- (d) Procured by the College Board of Trustees or state Regents and the universities and colleges of the State University System.

Section 14. Section 287.0731, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.0731 Team for contract negotiations.--Contingent 31 upon funding in the General Appropriations Act, the department

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of Management Services, in consultation with the State Technology Office, shall establish a permanent team that includes for contract negotiations including a chief negotiator, to specialize in conducting negotiations for the procurement of information technology resources.

Section 15. Section 287.0822, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.0822 Beef and pork; prohibition on purchase; bid specifications; penalty.--

- (1) Fresh or frozen beef or pork that has not been inspected by the United States Department of Agriculture or by another state's inspection program which has been approved by the United States Department of Agriculture shall not be purchased, or caused to be purchased, by any agency of the state or of any municipality, political subdivision, school district, or special district for consumption in this state or for distribution for consumption in this state. Solicitations Bid invitations issued by any agency of the state or of any municipality, political subdivision, school district, or special district for the purchase of fresh or frozen beef or pork must specify that only beef or pork inspected and passed by either the United States Department of Agriculture or by another state's inspection program which has been approved by the United States Department of Agriculture will be accepted. The supplier or vendor shall certify on the invoice that the fresh or frozen beef or pork or imported beef or pork supplied is either domestic or complies with this subsection.
- (2) All <u>solicitations</u> bid invitations for purchase of fresh or frozen meats of any kind by any agency of the state or of any municipality, political subdivision, school district, or special district using state or local funds shall

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include the words: " 'All American' and 'Genuine Florida' meats or meat products shall be granted preference as allowed by Section 287.082, Florida Statutes."

(3) Any person who knowingly violates or causes to be violated the provisions of this section shall be personally liable to the affected public agency for any funds spent in violation of the provisions of this section.

Section 16. Section 287.084, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.084 Preference to Florida businesses.--

- (1) When an agency, county, municipality, school district, or other political subdivision of the state is required to make purchases of personal property through competitive solicitation bidding and the lowest responsible and responsive bid, proposal, or reply is by a vendor bidder whose principal place of business is in a state or political subdivision thereof which grants a preference for the purchase of such personal property to a person whose principal place of business is in such state, then the agency, county, municipality, school district, or other political subdivision of this state may award a preference to the lowest responsible and responsive vendor bidder having a principal place of business within this state, which preference is equal to the preference granted by the state or political subdivision thereof in which the lowest responsible and responsive vendor bidder has his or her principal place of business. However, this section shall not apply to transportation projects for which federal aid funds are available.
- (2) If <u>a solicitation</u> an invitation for bids provides for the granting of such preference as is provided herein, any vendor bidder whose principal place of business is outside the

State of Florida must accompany any written bid, proposal, or reply documents with a written opinion of an attorney at law licensed to practice law in that foreign state, as to the preferences, if any or none, granted by the law of that state to its own business entities whose principal places of business are in that foreign state in the letting of any or all public contracts.

Section 17. Section 287.087, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.087 Preference to businesses with drug-free workplace programs.—Whenever two or more bids, proposals, or replies which are equal with respect to price, quality, and service are received by the state or by any political subdivision for the procurement of commodities or contractual services, a bid, proposal, or reply received from a business that certifies that it has implemented a drug-free workplace program shall be given preference in the award process. In order to have a drug-free workplace program, a business shall:

- (1) Publish a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition.
- (2) Inform employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the business's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.

- (3) Give each employee engaged in providing the commodities or contractual services that are under bid a copy of the statement specified in subsection (1).
- (4) In the statement specified in subsection (1), notify the employees that, as a condition of working on the commodities or contractual services that are under bid, the employee will abide by the terms of the statement and will notify the employer of any conviction of, or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, any violation of chapter 893 or of any controlled substance law of the United States or any state, for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than 5 days after such conviction.
- (5) Impose a sanction on, or require the satisfactory participation in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program if such is available in the employee's community by, any employee who is so convicted.
- (6) Make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of this section.

Section 18. Section 287.093, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.093 Minority business enterprises; procurement of personal property and services from funds set aside for such purpose.—Any county, municipality, community college, or district school board may set aside up to 10 percent or more of the total amount of funds allocated for the procurement of personal property and services for the purpose of entering into contracts with minority business enterprises. Such contracts shall be competitively solicited bid only among minority business enterprises. The set-aside shall be used to redress present effects of past discriminatory practices and

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shall be subject to periodic reassessment to account for changing needs and circumstances.

Section 19. Paragraphs (n) and (o) of subsection (4) and paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (5) of section 287.09451, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

287.09451 Office of Supplier Diversity; powers, duties, and functions .--

- (4) The Office of Supplier Diversity shall have the following powers, duties, and functions:
- (n)1. To develop procedures to be used by an agency in identifying commodities, contractual services, architectural and engineering services, and construction contracts, except those architectural, engineering, construction, or other related services or contracts subject to the provisions of chapter 339, that could be provided by minority business enterprises. Each agency is encouraged to spend 21 percent of the moneys actually expended for construction contracts, 25 percent of the moneys actually expended for architectural and engineering contracts, 24 percent of the moneys actually expended for commodities, and 50.5 percent of the moneys actually expended for contractual services during the previous fiscal year, except for the state university construction program which shall be based upon public education capital outlay projections for the subsequent fiscal year, and reported to the Legislature pursuant to s. 216.023, for the purpose of entering into contracts with certified minority business enterprises as defined in s. 288.703(2), or approved joint ventures. However, in the event of budget reductions pursuant to s. 216.221, the base amounts may be adjusted to reflect such reductions. The overall spending goal for each 31 | industry category shall be subdivided as follows:

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- For construction contracts: 4 percent for black a. Americans, 6 percent for Hispanic-Americans, and 11 percent for American women.
- b. For architectural and engineering contracts: 9 percent for Hispanic-Americans, 1 percent for Asian-Americans, and 15 percent for American women.
- c. For commodities: 2 percent for black Americans, 4 percent for Hispanic-Americans, 0.5 percent for Asian-Americans, 0.5 percent for Native Americans, and 17 percent for American women.
- d. For contractual services: 6 percent for black Americans, 7 percent for Hispanic-Americans, 1 percent for Asian-Americans, 0.5 percent for Native Americans, and 36 percent for American women.
- For the purposes of commodities contracts for the purchase of equipment to be used in the construction and maintenance of state transportation facilities involving the Department of Transportation, "minority business enterprise" has the same meaning as provided in s. 288.703. "Minority person" has the same meaning as in s. 288.703(3). In order to ensure that the goals established under this paragraph for contracting with certified minority business enterprises are met, the department, with the assistance of the Office of Supplier Diversity, shall make recommendations to the Legislature on revisions to the goals, based on an updated statistical analysis, at least once every 5 years. Such recommendations shall be based on statistical data indicating the availability of and disparity in the use of minority businesses contracting with the state. The results of the first updated disparity study must be presented to the 31 Legislature no later than December 1, 1996.

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- In determining the base amounts for assessing 3. compliance with this paragraph, the Office of Supplier Diversity may develop, by rule, guidelines for all agencies to use in establishing such base amounts. These rules must include, but are not limited to, guidelines for calculation of base amounts, a deadline for the agencies to submit base amounts, a deadline for approval of the base amounts by the Office of Supplier Diversity, and procedures for adjusting the base amounts as a result of budget reductions made pursuant to s. 216.221.
- 4. To determine quidelines for the use of price preferences, weighted preference formulas, or other preferences, as appropriate to the particular industry or trade, to increase the participation of minority businesses in state contracting. These guidelines shall include consideration of:
 - a. Size and complexity of the project.
- The concentration of transactions with minority business enterprises for the commodity or contractual services in question in prior agency contracting.
- The specificity and definition of work allocated to participating minority business enterprises.
- The capacity of participating minority business enterprises to complete the tasks identified in the project.
- The available pool of minority business enterprises as prime contractors, either alone or as partners in an approved joint venture that serves as the prime contractor.
- 5. To determine guidelines for use of joint ventures to meet minority business enterprises spending goals. For purposes of this section, "joint venture" means any 31 association of two or more business concerns to carry out a

single business enterprise for profit, for which purpose they 1 combine their property, capital, efforts, skills, and 3 knowledge. The guidelines shall allow transactions with joint ventures to be eligible for credit against the minority 4 5 business enterprise goals of an agency when the contracting joint venture demonstrates that at least one partner to the 6 7 joint venture is a certified minority business enterprise as 8 defined in s. 288.703, and that such partner is responsible for a clearly defined portion of the work to be performed, and 9 shares in the ownership, control, management, 10 responsibilities, risks, and profits of the joint venture. 11 12 Such demonstration shall be by verifiable documents and sworn 13 statements and may be reviewed by the Office of Supplier 14 Diversity at or before the time a contract bid, proposal, or reply is submitted. An agency may count toward its minority 15 16 business enterprise goals a portion of the total dollar amount of a contract equal to the percentage of the ownership and 17 control held by the qualifying certified minority business 18 19 partners in the contracting joint venture, so long as the 20 joint venture meets the guidelines adopted by the office. 21 (o)1. To establish a system to record and measure the 22 use of certified minority business enterprises in state contracting. This system shall maintain information and 23 statistics on certified minority business enterprise 24 participation, awards, dollar volume of expenditures and 25 26 agency goals, and other appropriate types of information to 27 analyze progress in the access of certified minority business 28 enterprises to state contracts and to monitor agency 29 compliance with this section. Such reporting must include, but is not limited to, the identification of all subcontracts in 30 31 state contracting by dollar amount and by number of

subcontracts and the identification of the utilization of certified minority business enterprises as prime contractors and subcontractors by dollar amounts of contracts and subcontracts, number of contracts and subcontracts, minority status, industry, and any conditions or circumstances that significantly affected the performance of subcontractors. Agencies shall report their compliance with the requirements of this reporting system at least annually and at the request of the office. All agencies shall cooperate with the office in establishing this reporting system. Except in construction contracting, all agencies shall review contracts costing in excess of CATEGORY FOUR as defined in s. 287.017 to determine if such contracts could be divided into smaller contracts to be separately solicited bid and awarded, and shall, when economical, offer such smaller contracts to encourage minority participation.

- 2. To report agency compliance with the provisions of subparagraph 1. for the preceding fiscal year to the Governor and Cabinet, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment Security on or before February 1 of each year. The report must contain, at a minimum, the following:
 - a. Total expenditures of each agency by industry.
- b. The dollar amount and percentage of contracts awarded to certified minority business enterprises by each state agency.
- c. The dollar amount and percentage of contracts awarded indirectly to certified minority business enterprises as subcontractors by each state agency.

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- d. The total dollar amount and percentage of contracts awarded to certified minority business enterprises, whether directly or indirectly, as subcontractors.
- e. A statement and assessment of good faith efforts taken by each state agency.
- f. A status report of agency compliance with subsection (6), as determined by the Minority Business Enterprise Office.

(5)

- (d) Should the proposed procurement proceed to competitive solicitation bidding, the office is hereby granted standing to protest, pursuant to this section, in a timely manner, any contract award during in competitive solicitation bidding for contractual services and construction contracts that fail to include minority business enterprise participation, if any responsible and responsive vendor responding bidder has demonstrated the ability to achieve any level of participation, or, any contract award for commodities where, a reasonable and economical opportunity to reserve a contract, statewide or district level, for minority participation was not executed or, an agency failed to adopt an applicable preference for minority participation. The bond requirement shall be waived for the office purposes of this subsection.
- (e) An agency may presume that a <u>vendor</u> bidder offering no minority participation has not made a good faith effort when other <u>vendors</u> bidders offer minority participation of firms listed as relevant to the agency's purchasing needs in the pertinent locality or statewide to complete the project.

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Section 20. Section 287.096, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

287.096 Thresholds for exempt programs.--All products offered for purchase to a state agency by an entity exempt from this chapter pursuant to s. 287.095, s. 413.036, or s. 946.515, shall be produced in majority part by inmate labor pursuant to chapter 946, or by blind or severely handicapped persons pursuant to ss. 413.032-413.037.

Section 21. Paragraph (g) of subsection (1), subsection (2), and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 287.133, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.133 Public entity crime; denial or revocation of the right to transact business with public entities .--

- (1) As used in this section:
- (g) "Public entity crime" means a violation of any state or federal law by a person with respect to and directly related to the transaction of business with any public entity or with an agency or political subdivision of any other state or with the United States, including, but not limited to, any bid, proposal, or reply or contract for goods or services, any lease for real property, or any contract for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, involving antitrust, fraud, theft, bribery, collusion, racketeering, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation.
- (2)(a) A person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public 31 building or public work, may not submit bids, proposals, or

replies on leases of real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

- (b) No public entity shall accept any bid, proposal, or reply from, award any contract to, or transact any business in excess of the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO with any person or affiliate on the convicted vendor list for a period of 36 months from the date that person or affiliate was placed on the convicted vendor list unless that person or affiliate has been removed from the list pursuant to paragraph (3)(f). No public entity which was transacting business with a person at the time of the commission of a public entity crime which resulted in that person being placed on the convicted vendor list shall accept any bid, proposal, or reply from, award any contract to, or transact any business with any other person who is under the same, or substantially the same, control as the person whose name appears on the convicted vendor list so long as that person's name appears on the convicted vendor list.
- (3)(a) All invitations to bid as defined by s. 287.012(11), requests for proposals, and invitations to negotiate, all as defined in by s. 287.012(15), and any contract document of the state described by s. 287.058 shall contain a statement informing persons of the provisions of paragraph (2)(a).

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Section 22. Subsection (2) and paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (3) of section 287.134, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

287.134 Discrimination; denial or revocation of the right to transact business with public entities .--

- (2)(a) An entity or affiliate who has been placed on the discriminatory vendor list may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit bids, proposals, or replies on leases of real property to a public entity; may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity; and may not transact business with any public entity.
- (b) No public entity shall accept any bid, proposal, or reply from, award any contract to, or transact any business with any entity or affiliate on the discriminatory vendor list for a period of 36 months from the date that entity or affiliate was placed on the discriminatory vendor list unless that entity or affiliate has been removed from the list pursuant to paragraph (3)(f). No public entity which was transacting business with an entity at the time of the discrimination which resulted in that entity being placed on the discriminatory vendor list shall accept any bid, proposal, or reply from, award any contract to, or transact any business with any other entity who is under the same, or substantially the same, control as the entity whose name appears on the discriminatory vendor list so long as that entity's name 31 appears on the discriminatory vendor list.

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- (3)(a) All invitations to bid, as defined by s. 287.012(11), requests for proposals, and invitations to negotiate, all as defined by s. 287.012 as defined by s. 287.012(15), and any written contract document of the state shall contain a statement informing entities of the provisions of paragraph (2)(a).
- (c) The department shall maintain a list of the names and addresses of any entity which has been disqualified from the public contracting and purchasing process under this section. The department shall publish an initial list on January 1, 2001, and shall publish an updated version of the list quarterly thereafter. The initial list and revised quarterly lists shall be published electronically or in the Florida Administrative Weekly. Notwithstanding this paragraph, an entity or affiliate disqualified from the public contracting and purchasing process pursuant to this section shall be disqualified as of the date the final order is entered.

Section 23. Section 287.1345, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.1345 Surcharge on users of state term contracts; deposit of proceeds collected .-- The department of Management Services may impose a surcharge upon users of state term contracts in order to fund the costs, including overhead, of its procurement function. The department may provide for the state term contract vendor to collect the surcharge or directly collect the fee from the public agency or eligible user involved. For the purpose of compensating vendors for expenses incurred in collecting such fees, the department may authorize a vendor to retain a portion of the fees. 31 | vendor may withhold the portion retained from the amount of

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1 fees to be remitted to the department. The department may establish negotiate the retainage as a percentage of such fees charged to users, as a flat amount, or as any other method the department deems feasible. Vendors shall maintain accurate sales summaries for purchases made from state term contracts and shall provide the summaries to the department on a quarterly basis. Any contract remedies relating to the collection of such fees from users through vendors are enforceable, including, but not limited to, liquidated damages, late fees, and the costs of collection, including 10 11 attorney's fees. The fees collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund of 12 13 the department and are subject to appropriation as provided by 14 law. The Executive Office of the Governor may exempt transactions from the payment of the surcharge if payment of 15 16 such surcharge would cause the state, a political subdivision, or unit of local government to lose federal funds or in other 17 cases where such exemption is in the public interest. 18 fees collected pursuant to this section and interest income on 19 such fees shall not be deemed to be income of a revenue nature 21 for purposes of chapter 215.

Section 24. Subsection (1) of section 283.33, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

283.33 Printing of publications; lowest bidder awards.--

(1) Publications may be printed and prepared in-house, by another agency or the Legislature, or purchased on bid, whichever is more economical and practicable as determined by the agency. An agency may contract for binding separately when more economical or practicable, whether or not the 31 remainder of the printing is done in-house. A bidder may

subcontract for binding and still be considered a qualified bidder or offeror, notwithstanding s. 287.012(13). Section 25. Sections 287.073 and 287.121, Florida Statutes, are repealed. Section 26. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002. ********** HOUSE SUMMARY Revises provisions relating to competitive bidding on public contracts for commodities, insurance, and contractual services to specify application to invitations to bid, invitations to negotiate, requests for information, requests for proposals, requests for quotes and replies, to state term contracts, and to responsive and responsible vendors. See bill for details.