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## DIGEST

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Broadwater

HB No. 690

**Abstract:** Authorizes public school districts or public schools to participate in purchasing cooperatives for procurement of materials, equipment, and supplies; requires such cooperatives to follow a specific request for proposals process when soliciting vendors.

Proposed law authorizes any public school district or public school to participate in a school district purchasing cooperative for the purchase of materials, equipment, and supplies. Defines such a cooperative as an organization, whether for profit or not for profit, of which two or more public school districts are members and which solicits proposals or bids from vendors for services, materials, equipment, or supplies of the type and nature as may be purchased by a public school district or public school. Authorizes cooperative members to purchase materials, equipment, and supplies in accordance with contracts submitted to the cooperative by a vendor. Requires cooperatives to use the following request for proposals process in the solicitation of vendors for materials, equipment, and supplies:

- (1) Public notice shall be given by the placement of an advertisement in the official journal of the state at least once; advertisements may also be placed in other newspapers, trade journals, and websites at the cooperative's discretion.
- (2) The notice shall include the nature of the materials, equipment, or supplies sought and may include information on the estimated quantity sought and the time frame for purchase by cooperative members.
- (3) The advertisement shall appear at least 15 days before the last day that proposals may be submitted.
- (4) The notice shall be provided at least 15 days before the last day for proposals to be accepted, to persons, firms, or companies which have requested to be notified of requests for proposals.
- (5) The notice shall include information with regard to the deadline for submission of proposals and contact information for questions concerning the solicitation.
- (6) The responsible and responsive proposal that provides the lowest price shall be selected.
- (7) The selected vendor shall agree to make the subject materials, equipment, or supplies available for the price set forth in the proposal to any member of the school district

purchasing cooperative.

(Adds R.S. 38:2212.1(N))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Adds a specific request for proposals process that a school district purchasing cooperative shall follow in the solicitation of vendors for materials, equipment, and supplies.