DIGEST

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HB 800 Original	2020 Regular Session	Deshotel
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Abstract: Establishes procedure for agencies to compare existing procurement contract offerings and determine which vendor offers best value.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes multiple different types of procurement contracts but does not provide a way for agencies to compare offerings between those existing contracts.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the office of state procurement to post on its website a list of all available "price schedule" contracts, grouped by offered good and to identify which contract holders are based in La. Defines "price schedule" contracts as a brand name contract, multiple award schedule, or public cooperative contract (all established in <u>present law</u>).

<u>Proposed law</u> further requires any agency wishing to procure more than \$25,000 in goods from a price schedule contract to prepare a request for responses describing the nature and volume of goods sought and provide any other criteria or special requirements. Using the list of price schedule contracts on the office of state procurement's website (established pursuant to <u>proposed law</u>), the agency must solicit responses to the request for responses from at least three listed contract-holders, if available. At least one of these selected, if available, shall be a business domiciled in La. or a business for whom a majority of ownership is held by residents of La. The agency must then evaluate responses to the request for responses and document its decision in writing. <u>Proposed law</u> requires the outcome of this evaluation to be a public record. Requires the agency to award to the respondent offering the lowest price, but allows award to another respondent if other legitimate business interests of the agency, or non-price characteristics of the various offerings, adequately justify award to another respondent. Examples of interests and characteristics that may justify awarding the contract to another respondent include: the quality and extent of product warranties offered, product life cycle cost, maintenance, contractor production capacity, and timeliness of delivery.

Effective July 1, 2020.

(Adds R.S. 39:1593.1)