

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

**ACT 180 (HB 312)**

**2025 Regular Session**

**Gadberry**

Prior law established a policy for the state, its political subdivisions, and its agencies to select architectural and engineering professional services based on competence and qualifications for a fair and reasonable price. Further prohibited the state and its political subdivisions or agencies from selecting architects, engineers, landscape architects, and land surveyors from using price or price-related information as a factor in the selection.

New law modifies prior law by prohibiting the state and its political subdivisions or agencies or persons who they contract through from using price or price-related information as a factor in selecting architects, engineers, landscape architects, and land surveyors for projects using state or local funding.

Prior law required a political subdivision or agency negotiate professional service contracts with firms at fair and reasonable contract rates. Specified that if the political subdivision or agency was unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with that firm, it must terminate negotiations and negotiate with the next selected firm, until a contract was negotiated satisfactorily.

New law modifies prior law by requiring subdivisions, agencies, or persons they contract through to negotiate for professional services at a rate that is fair and reasonable. Should the subdivisions, agencies, or persons they contract through be unable to properly negotiate the contract, it is required they formally terminate negotiations and undertake negotiations with the next firm, continuing the process until negotiated satisfactorily.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 38:2318.1(A) and (B))