

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 851 (HB 893)

2026 Regular Session

Knox

Existing law provides that the public water system, public sewerage system, and public drainage system of the city of New Orleans shall be constructed, controlled, maintained, and operated by a sewerage and water board. Provides for the composition of the board and its powers and duties.

Existing law (R.S. 38:2212.1(A)(1)(a)) relative to the advertisement and letting of contracts, provides that all purchases of any materials or supplies exceeding the sum of \$60,000 to be paid out of public funds shall be advertised and let by contract to the lowest responsible bidder who has bid according to the specifications as advertised. Provides that no purchase shall be made except as otherwise provided by existing law (Part II of Chapter 10 of Title 38).

Existing law (R.S. 38:2212.1(A)(1)(b)) provides however, that purchases of \$30,000 dollars or more, but less than \$60,000, shall be made by obtaining not less than three quotes by telephone, facsimile, email, or any other printable electronic form. Provides that if telephone quotes are received, a written confirmation of the accepted offers shall be obtained and made a part of the purchase file. Additionally provides that if quotations lower than the accepted quotation are received, the reasons for their rejection shall be recorded in the purchase file.

Prior law provided that all purchases of materials or supplies required by the sewerage and water board for the conduct, operation, maintenance, and repair of the public systems of sewerage, water, and drainage exceeding the sum of \$30,000 were required to be advertised and let by contract to the lowest responsible bidder who bid according to the contract plans and specifications as advertised.

Prior law provided however, that purchases of \$10,000 or more, but not more than \$30,000, were required to be made by obtaining not less than three quotes by telephone, facsimile, email, or any other electronic form. Provided that if telephone quotes were received, a written confirmation of the accepted offers had to be obtained and made a part of the purchase file. Provided that if quotations lower than the accepted quotation were received, the reasons for their rejection had to be recorded in the purchase file. Additionally provided that no such purchases could be made except as provided in prior law.

New law removes prior law and provides that all purchases of materials or supplies required by the sewerage and water board for the conduct, operation, maintenance, and repair of the public systems of sewerage, water, and drainage shall be made in accordance with the provisions of existing law (R.S. 38:2212.1(A)(1)(a)).

New law provides however, that purchases made within the threshold set by existing law (R.S. 38:2212.1(A)(1)(b)) shall be made in accordance with the provisions of existing law (R.S. 38:2212.1(A)(1)(b)).

Prior law provided that in the event of an emergency, the executive director or the general superintendent of the board could, with the written consent of the president pro tempore of the board or the mayor of the city, contract a bill for supplies and materials not exceeding \$10,000. New law raises the maximum threshold amount from \$10,000 to \$30,000.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 33:4084(A)(1)(a) and (b) and (C); Repeals R.S. 33:4084(A)(1)(c))