New law provides that "manufactured in the United States" means produced by a process in which the manufacturing, final assembly, processing, packaging, testing, and any other process that adds value, quality, or reliability to assembled articles, materials, or supplies, occurs in the U.S.

New law provides that if a contract is not entered into for products purchased under the provisions of the law for preference of La. products (R.S. 39:1595), each procurement officer, purchasing agent, or similar official who procures or purchases materials, supplies, products, provisions, or equipment under the Louisiana Procurement Code may purchase such materials, supplies, products, provisions, or equipment which are manufactured in the U.S., and which are equal in quality to other materials, supplies, products, provisions, or equipment, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The cost of such items does not exceed the cost of other items which are manufactured outside the U.S. by more than 5%.

(2) The vendor of such items agrees to sell the items at the same price as the lowest bid offered on such items.

(3) In cases where more than one bidder offers items manufactured in the U.S. which are within 5% of the lowest bid, the bidder offering the lowest bid on such items is entitled to accept the price of the lowest bid made on such items.

(4) The vendor certifies that such items are manufactured in the U.S.

New law provides that the office of state purchasing may promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of new law in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

Effective July 1, 2011.

(Adds R.S. 39:1595.7)