DIGEST

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HB 895 Original

2016 Regular Session

Zeringue

Abstract: Provides a preference for Louisiana resident contractors for public projects for integrated coastal protection projects.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires public entities to give preference to La. resident contractors in letting contracts for public work for integrated coastal protection projects. Excepts contracts financed in whole or in part by the US government.

If competitive bidding is not required, <u>proposed law</u> requires such contract be awarded to a La. resident contractor, provided there is one available with the expertise required for the specific job. If competitive bidding is required by law, the contract shall be awarded to the resident contractor making the lowest responsible bid, if the bid is not more than 10% higher than the lowest responsible nonresident bid and the resident contractor agrees to revise his bid to be no more than the lowest responsible nonresident bid.

<u>Present law</u> (R.S. 49:214.2) defines "project" as a physical structure or structures designed and constructed according to the annual state integrated coastal protection plan and defines "integrated coastal protection" as plans, projects, policies, and programs intended to provide hurricane protection or coastal conservation or restoration, including coastal restoration; coastal protection; infrastructure; storm damage reduction; flood control; water resources development; erosion control measures; marsh management; diversions; saltwater intrusion prevention; wetlands and central wetlands conservation, enhancement, and restoration; barrier island and shoreline stabilization and preservation; coastal passes stabilization and restoration; mitigation; storm surge reduction; or beneficial use projects.

<u>Proposed law</u> specifies that integrated coastal protection projects have the same meaning as provided in <u>present law</u> and shall include construction and maintenance of levees and restoration projects.

(Adds R.S. 38:2225.1.1)