

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31

BY REPRESENTATIVE LYONS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request agencies procuring supplies, services, and major repairs on an emergency basis to provide for greater transparency and competition in such procurements where practicable.

WHEREAS, in addition to the unprecedented destruction brought upon our citizens and our economy by the COVID-19 pandemic, our state is also struggling to recover from multiple natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, this year, more than any other in recent history, has provided more reason for agencies across the state to utilize the emergency procurement mechanisms in state law, which are designed to allow the procuring agency the flexibility to make purchases in the face of an imminent threat to public health, welfare, safety, or property; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the essential value of the procurement function in equipping agencies with the goods and services needed to meet the needs of the people of Louisiana, while also providing fair and open, competitive opportunities for Louisiana-based and other businesses to support emergency operations and sustain their businesses during the economic uncertainty of this year's unprecedented social and economic strain; and

WHEREAS, agencies have a variety of emergency procurement methods available to them, including use of existing statewide and emergency-contingency contracts, the informal three-quotes process, and the request for quotations mechanism; and

WHEREAS, not only would using the request for quotations mechanism to a greater degree than the informal three-quotes emergency process open the path for more Louisiana-based and small businesses to build a book of business and support their employees and communities, it would also provide more transparency and competition in the emergency procurement process.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request agencies procuring supplies, services, and major repairs on an emergency basis to provide for greater transparency and competition in such procurements where practicable by utilizing the request for quotation procurement mechanism rather than the informal three-quotes process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the governor and each department head in the executive branch.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE