## FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## SENATE BILL NO. 176

## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HOUGH.

Pre-filed December 13, 2018, and ordered printed.

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ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

## AN ACT

To repeal sections 34.040, 34.042, 34.044, and 34.047, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to public contracts.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 34.040, 34.042, 34.044, and 34.047, RSMo, are

- 2 repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections
- 3 34.040, 34.042, 34.044, and 34.047, to read as follows:
  - 34.040. 1. All purchases in excess of [three] ten thousand dollars shall
- 2 be based on competitive bids, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.
- 3 2. On any purchase where the estimated expenditure shall be [twenty-
- 4 five one hundred thousand dollars or over, except as provided in subsection 6
- of this section, the commissioner of administration shall:
- 6 (1) Advertise for bids in at least two daily newspapers of general
- 7 circulation in such places as are most likely to reach prospective bidders and may
- 8 advertise in at least two weekly minority newspapers and may provide such
- 9 information through an electronic medium available to the general public at least
- 10 five days before bids for such purchases are to be opened. Other methods of
- 11 advertisement, which may include minority business purchase councils, however,
- 12 may be adopted by the commissioner of administration when such other methods
- 13 are deemed more advantageous for the supplies to be purchased;
- 14 (2) Post a notice of the proposed purchase in his or her office; and
- 15 (3) Solicit bids by mail or other reasonable method generally available to
- 16 the public from prospective suppliers. All bids for such supplies shall be mailed
- 17 or delivered to the office of the commissioner of administration so as to reach
- 18 such office before the time set for opening bids.

3. The contract shall be let to the lowest and best bidder. The commissioner of administration shall have the right to reject any or all bids and advertise for new bids, or purchase the required supplies on the open market if they can be so purchased at a better price. When bids received pursuant to this section are unreasonable or unacceptable as to terms and conditions, noncompetitive, or the low bid exceeds available funds and it is determined in writing by the commissioner of administration that time or other circumstances will not permit the delay required to resolicit competitive bids, a contract may be negotiated pursuant to this section, provided that each responsible bidder who submitted such bid under the original solicitation is notified of the determination and is given a reasonable opportunity to modify their bid and submit a best and final bid to the state. In cases where the bids received are noncompetitive or the low bid exceeds available funds, the negotiated price shall be lower than the lowest rejected bid of any responsible bidder under the original solicitation.

- 4. The director of the department of revenue shall follow bidding procedures as contained in this chapter and may promulgate rules necessary to establish such procedures. No points shall be awarded on a request for proposal for a contract license office to a bidder for a return-to-the-state provision offer.
- 5. All bids shall be based on standard specifications wherever such specifications have been approved by the commissioner of administration. The commissioner of administration shall make rules governing the delivery, inspection, storage and distribution of all supplies so purchased and governing the manner in which all claims for supplies delivered shall be submitted, examined, approved and paid. The commissioner shall determine the amount of bond or deposit and the character thereof which shall accompany bids or contracts.
- 6. The department of natural resources may, without the approval of the commissioner of administration required pursuant to this section, enter into contracts of up to five hundred thousand dollars to abate illegal waste tire sites pursuant to section 260.276 when the director of the department determines that urgent action is needed to protect public health, safety, natural resources or the environment. The department shall follow bidding procedures pursuant to this section and may promulgate rules necessary to establish such procedures. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if

applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 1999, shall be invalid and void.

- 7. The commissioner of administration and other agencies to which the state purchasing law applies shall not contract for goods or services with a vendor if the vendor or an affiliate of the vendor makes sales at retail of tangible personal property or for the purpose of storage, use, or consumption in this state but fails to collect and properly pay the tax as provided in chapter 144. For the purposes of this section, "affiliate of the vendor" shall mean any person or entity that is controlled by or is under common control with the vendor, whether through stock ownership or otherwise.
- 8. (1) The commissioner of administration may hold a reverse auction to procure merchandise, supplies, raw materials, or finished goods if price is the primary factor in evaluating bids. The office of administration shall promulgate rules regarding the handling of the reverse auction process.
- (2) Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010 that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2019, shall be invalid and void.
- 34.042. 1. When the commissioner of administration determines that the use of competitive bidding is either not practicable or not advantageous to the state, supplies may be procured by competitive proposals. The commissioner shall state the reasons for such determination, and a report containing those reasons shall be maintained with the vouchers or files pertaining to such purchases. All purchases in excess of [five] ten thousand dollars to be made under this section shall be based on competitive proposals.
  - 2. On any purchase where the estimated expenditure shall be [twenty-

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9 five] **one hundred** thousand dollars or over, the commissioner of administration shall:

- (1) Advertise for proposals in at least two daily newspapers of general circulation in such places as are most likely to reach prospective offerors and may advertise in at least two weekly minority newspapers and may provide such information through an electronic medium available to the general public at least five days before proposals for such purchases are to be opened. Other methods of advertisement, however, may be adopted by the commissioner of administration when such other methods are deemed more advantageous for the supplies to be purchased;
  - (2) Post notice of the proposed purchase; and
- 20 (3) Solicit proposals by mail or other reasonable method generally 21 available to the public from prospective offerors.
- All proposals for such supplies shall be mailed or delivered to the office of the commissioner of administration so as to reach such office before the time set for opening proposals. Proposals shall be opened in a manner to avoid disclosure of contents to competing offerors during the process of negotiation.
  - 3. The contract shall be let to the lowest and best offeror as determined by the evaluation criteria established in the request for proposal and any subsequent negotiations conducted pursuant to this subsection. In determining the lowest and best offeror, as provided in the request for proposals and under rules promulgated by the commissioner of administration, negotiations may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals selected by the commissioner of administration on the basis of reasonable criteria for the purpose of clarifying and assuring full understanding of and responsiveness to the solicitation requirements. Those offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for negotiation and subsequent revision of proposals, provided that a request for a proposal may set forth the manner for determining which offerors are eligible for negotiation including, but not limited to, the use of shortlisting. Revisions may be permitted after submission and before award for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers. In conducting negotiations there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors. The commissioner of administration shall have the right to reject any or all proposals and advertise for new proposals or purchase the required supplies on the open market if they can be so purchased at a better price.

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45 4. The commissioner shall make available, upon request, to any members 46 of the general assembly, information pertaining to competitive proposals, including the names of bidders and the amount of each bidder's offering for each 47 48 contract.

34.044. 1. The commissioner of administration may waive the requirement of competitive bids or proposals for supplies when the commissioner has determined in writing that there is only a single feasible source for the supplies. Immediately upon discovering that other feasible sources exist, the commissioner shall rescind the waiver and proceed to procure the supplies 5 6 through the competitive processes as described in this chapter. A single feasible source exists when:

- 8 (1) Supplies are proprietary and only available from the manufacturer or 9 a single distributor; or
- 10 (2) Based on past procurement experience, it is determined that only one distributor services the region in which the supplies are needed; or
- 12 (3) Supplies are available at a discount from a single distributor for a 13 limited period of time.
- 14 2. On any single feasible source purchase where the estimated 15 expenditure shall be [five] ten thousand dollars or over, the commissioner of administration shall post notice of the proposed purchase. Where the estimated 16 17 expenditure is [twenty-five] one hundred thousand dollars or over, the commissioner of administration shall also advertise the commissioner's intent to 18 19 make such purchase in at least two daily newspapers of general circulation in 20 such places as are most likely to reach prospective bidders or offerors and may 21provide such information through an electronic medium available to the general public at least five days before the contract is to be let. Other methods of 22advertisement, however, may be adopted by the commissioner of administration 23 when such other methods are deemed more advantageous for the supplies to be 24purchased. The requirement for advertising may be waived, if not feasible, due 25 to the supplies being available at a discount for only a limited period of time. 26

34.047. Notwithstanding any provision in section 34.040, section 34.100, or any other law to the contrary, departments shall have the authority to purchase products and services related to information technology when the estimated expenditure of such purchase shall not exceed [seventy-five] one hundred fifty thousand dollars, the length of any contract or agreement does not exceed twelve months, the department complies with the informal methods

of procurement established in section 34.040, and 1 CSR 40- 1.050 (1) for expenditures of less than [twenty-five] one hundred thousand dollars, and the department posts notice of such proposed purchase on the online bidding/vendor registration system maintained by the office of administration. For the purposes of this section, "information technology" shall mean any computer or electronic information equipment or interconnected system that is used in the acquisition, storage, manipulation, management, movement, control, display, switching, interchange, transmission, or reception of information, including audio, graphic, and text.

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