

TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT

Support - SB 829 - Emergency and Expedited Procurements - Reform

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

March 4, 2021

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **SB 829 - Emergency and Expedited Procurements - Reform**. I would like to thank Senator Lam for sponsoring this legislation.

Senate Bill 829 proposes several reforms to our state's emergency procurement process. I have spoken at length at numerous Board of Public Works meetings about the need for reforms like these, and I want to applaud Senator Lam for his commitment to transparency and ensuring taxpayer dollars are spent wisely. While it's up to the legislature to ultimately determine the appropriate reporting mechanisms and timelines for reporting emergency procurements, and I believe this needs to be a collaborative process and will certainly defer to experts in terms of what is possible, I strongly believe SB 829 would bring increased transparency to the emergency procurement process.

I support increased transparency for emergency procurements but understand there are legitimate policy questions and implementation constraints. Senator Lam's office worked with my office on amendments that we believe will strengthen the bill by making it easier to implement, while still striving to meet the original intent of the legislation. I continue to encourage the legislature to work with the Administration and Departments to find adequate solutions to some of the challenges and questions that have been raised with the increase in reporting.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a **favorable report** for Senate Bill 829. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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