



House Bill 193 - State Procurement - Transparency and Procedures

Position: Letter of Information

Committee: Senate Budget and Taxation

Date: April 2, 2026

From: John R. Woolums, Esq.

The Department of General Services (DGS) takes no position on House Bill 193 and is providing this Letter of Information for the Committee's consideration.

This legislation proposes significant revisions to State procurement standards and procedures regarding change orders and contract modifications; bid protests and contract claims; debriefings for unsuccessful offerors; and procurement ethics. The bill would expand certain procurement procedures governing contract claims that currently apply only to construction contracts to all types of contracts. In addition, the bill would extend the deadline for contractors to submit a written notice of a claim from 30 to 60 days.

DGS and the Office of State Procurement (OSP) greatly appreciate the sponsor's willingness to work with the agencies responsible for implementing this bill, as well as the advocates for our State's contracting community, to craft extensive amendments that address an array of stakeholder concerns. Through these amendments, DGS believes the bill represents a balanced approach to maintaining the intent of the legislation to improve the state procurement process for contractors and state agencies while also addressing many of the issues DGS raised regarding the bill as introduced.

For example, House Bill 193 would require a contract clause establishing that contractors are authorized to request a contract modification to provide an equitable adjustment to compensate the contractor for increases in the cost of and time for contract performance due to changes in State law that is applied by the procurement unit. As amended, the language allows these requests to be within the allowable scope of adjustments the State may make to a contract without shifting the burden of unexpected costs from contractors to the State, which could increase uncertainty and could significantly increase project expenses. The revised language maintains appropriate negotiating authority for all parties, while providing contractors with the ability to request an equitable adjustment when costs could not have been anticipated.

Again, DGS is providing this testimony for informational purposes, and the Department looks forward to being of further assistance as the Committee considers this bill.

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