

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia Washington

BilAnalysis

BilNo. HB 1642

Changing bidding for water-sewer districts  
Brief title

Public Arg: 2/14/97

Reps. D. Sommers/Scott/Wolfe  
Sponsor

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**BACKGROUND:**

Water-sewer districts must follow certain procedures when awarding contract for purchases of public works. If a contract for the purchase of materials, supplies, or equipment has an estimated value of more than \$10,000, it must be awarded by contract. If the contract for purchase has an estimated value of \$5,000 to less than \$50,000, it may be awarded pursuant to either a small works roster process or formal competitive bidding. If the contract for purchase has an estimated value of \$50,000 or more, it must be awarded through a formal competitive bidding process involving sealed bids.

Water-sewer districts follow a similar process for awarding public works contracts. A public works contract includes all the labor, materials, supplies, and equipment used on the project. A water-sewer district must award all public works with an estimated value over \$5,000 by contract. If the estimated value of the contract for the public work is less than \$50,000, a small works roster process may be used to award the contract. If the estimated value of the contract for the public work is \$50,000 or more, then formal competitive bidding procedures must be used.

The statutes do not establish a separate process for the purchase of labor.

**SUMMARY:**

A new process is created for the purchase of labor by a water-sewer district. Any purchase of labor by a water-sewer district with an estimated cost over \$10,000 must be done by contract. If the estimated cost for the labor is from \$10,000 to less than \$50,000, the water-sewer district may use a small works roster process or formal competitive bidding to award the contract. If the estimated cost for the labor is \$50,000 or more, the contract must be awarded through formal competitive bidding procedures.

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A water-sewer district may use the uniform process to award contracts for purchases when the contract has an estimated cost from \$10,000 to less than \$50,000.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Not requested.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bills passed.