

## CHAPTER 98-35

### Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 482

An act relating to educational facilities; amending s. 235.31, F.S.; requiring boards to prequalify bidders for construction contracts according to Commissioner of Education rule; requiring certification or licensure of bidders or contractors; amending s. 489.125, F.S.; conforming language relating to construction contractors; repealing s. 489.527, F.S., relating to electrical and alarm system contractors, to conform; repealing section 633.551(5), F.S., relating to fire protection system contractors, to conform; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 235.31, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 97-190, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

235.31 Advertising and awarding contracts; prequalification of contractor.—

(2) Boards shall prequalify bidders for construction contracts according to may elect to come under the rules prescribed by the Commissioner of Education which require for the prequalification of bidders of educational facilities construction. Boards shall require that all construction or capital improvement bids be accompanied by evidence that the bidder holds an appropriate certificate or license or that the prime contractor has a current valid license.

Section 2. Section 489.125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

489.125 Prequalification of certificateholders eligible to participate in projects under s. 235.31.—Any person holding a certificate shall be prequalified is qualified to bid by participate in any project under s. 235.31, unless a district school board elects to prequalify contractors pursuant to uniform prequalification of contractors criteria adopted by rule of the Commissioner State Board of Education. This section does not supersede any small, woman-owned or minority-owned business enterprise preference program adopted by a district school board. A district school board may not modify or supplement the uniform prequalification criteria adopted by rule. If a district school board elects to prequalify contractors, A person holding a certificate must apply to each that board for prequalification consideration.

Section 3. Section 489.527 and subsection (5) of section 633.551, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1 of the year in which enacted.

Became a law without the Governor's approval April 30, 1998.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 29, 1998.