

CHAPTER 2021-194

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 53

An act relating to public works; amending s. 255.0991, F.S.; revising a prohibition relating to any solicitation for construction services paid for with state appropriated funds; amending s. 255.0992, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “public works project”; prohibiting the state or any political subdivision that contracts for a public works project from taking specified action against certain persons that are engaged in a public works project or have submitted a bid for such a project; providing applicability; amending s. 403.928, F.S.; requiring the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to include an analysis of certain expenditures in its annual assessment; creating s. 403.9301, F.S.; providing definitions; requiring counties, municipalities, and special districts that provide wastewater services to develop a needs analysis that includes certain information by a specified date; requiring municipalities and special districts to submit such analyses to a certain county; requiring the county to file a compiled document with the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research by a specified date; requiring the office to evaluate the document and include an analysis in its annual assessment; providing applicability; creating s. 403.9302, F.S.; providing definitions; requiring counties, municipalities, and special districts that provide stormwater management to develop a needs analysis that includes certain information by a specified date; requiring municipalities and special districts to submit such analyses to a certain county; requiring the county to file a compiled document with the Secretary of Environmental Protection and the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research by a specified date; requiring the office to evaluate the document and include an analysis in its annual assessment; providing applicability; providing a determination and declaration of important state interest; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 255.0991, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

255.0991 Contracts for construction services; prohibited local government preferences.—

(2) For any a competitive solicitation for construction services paid for with any in which 50 percent or more of the cost will be paid from state-appropriated funds which have been appropriated at the time of the competitive solicitation, a state college, county, municipality, school district, or other political subdivision of the state may not use a local ordinance or regulation to prevent a certified, licensed, or registered contractor,

subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier, from participating in the bidding process that provides a preference based upon:

- (a) ~~The contractor's~~ Maintaining an office or place of business within a particular local jurisdiction;
- (b) ~~The contractor's~~ Hiring employees or subcontractors from within a particular local jurisdiction; or
- (c) ~~The contractor's~~ Prior payment of local taxes, assessments, or duties within a particular local jurisdiction.

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsections (2) and (3) of section 255.0992, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

255.0992 Public works projects; prohibited governmental actions.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(b) “Public works project” means an activity exceeding \$1 million in value that is of which 50 percent or more of the cost will be paid for with any from state-appropriated funds that were appropriated at the time of the competitive solicitation and which consists of the construction, maintenance, repair, renovation, remodeling, or improvement of a building, road, street, sewer, storm drain, water system, site development, irrigation system, reclamation project, gas or electrical distribution system, gas or electrical substation, or other facility, project, or portion thereof that is owned in whole or in part by any political subdivision.

(2)(a) Except as required by federal or state law, the state or any political subdivision that contracts for a public works project may not take the following actions:

(a) Prevent a certified, licensed, or registered contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier, from participating in the bidding process based on the geographic location of the company headquarters or offices of the contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier submitting a bid on a public works project or the residences of employees of such contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier.

(b) Require that a contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier engaged in a public works such project:

1. Pay employees a predetermined amount of wages or prescribe any wage rate;
2. Provide employees a specified type, amount, or rate of employee benefits;
3. Control, limit, or expand staffing; or

4. Recruit, train, or hire employees from a designated, restricted, or single source.

~~(c)(b) The state or any political subdivision that contracts for a public works project may not~~ Prohibit any contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier able to perform such work that who is qualified, licensed, or certified as required by state or local law to perform such work from receiving information about public works opportunities or from submitting a bid on the public works project. This paragraph does not apply to vendors listed under ss. 287.133 and 287.134.

(3) This section does not apply to the following:

(a) Contracts executed under chapter 337.

(b) A use authorized by s. 212.055(1) which is approved by a majority vote of the electorate of the county or by a charter amendment approved by a majority vote of the electorate of the county.

Section 3. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (1) of section 403.928, Florida Statutes, to read:

403.928 Assessment of water resources and conservation lands.—The Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall conduct an annual assessment of Florida’s water resources and conservation lands.

(1) WATER RESOURCES.—The assessment must include all of the following:

(e) Beginning with the assessment due January 1, 2022, an analysis of the expenditures necessary to repair, replace, and expand water-related infrastructure. As part of this analysis, the office shall periodically survey public and private utilities.

Section 4. Section 403.9301, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

403.9301 Wastewater services projections.—

(1) The Legislature intends for each county, municipality, or special district providing wastewater services to create a 20-year needs analysis.

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) “Domestic wastewater” has the same meaning as provided in s. 367.021.

(b) “Facility” means any equipment, structure, or other property, including sewerage systems and treatment works, used to provide wastewater services.

(c) “Treatment works” has the same meaning as provided in s. 403.031(11).

(d) “Wastewater services” means service to a sewerage system, as defined in s. 403.031(9), or service to domestic wastewater treatment works.

(3) By June 30, 2022, and every 5 years thereafter, each county, municipality, or special district providing wastewater services shall develop a needs analysis for its jurisdiction over the subsequent 20 years. In projecting such needs, each local government shall include the following:

(a) A detailed description of the facilities used to provide wastewater services.

(b) The number of current and projected connections and residents served calculated in 5-year increments.

(c) The current and projected service area for wastewater services.

(d) The current and projected cost of providing wastewater services calculated in 5-year increments.

(e) The estimated remaining useful life of each facility or its major components.

(f) The most recent 5-year history of annual contributions to, expenditures from, and balances of any capital account for maintenance or expansion of any facility or its major components.

(g) The local government’s plan to fund the maintenance or expansion of any facility or its major components. The plan must include historical and estimated future revenues and expenditures with an evaluation of how the local government expects to close any projected funding gap.

(4) Upon completing the requirements of subsection (3), each municipality or special district shall submit its needs analysis, as well as the methodology and any supporting data necessary to interpret the results, to the county within which the largest portion of its service area is located. Each county shall compile all analyses submitted to it under this subsection into a single document and include its own analysis in the document. The county shall file the compiled document with the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research no later than July 31, 2022, and every 5 years thereafter.

(5) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall evaluate the compiled documents from the counties for the purpose of developing a statewide analysis for inclusion in the assessment due January 1, 2023, pursuant to s. 403.928.

(6) This section applies to a rural area of opportunity as defined in s. 288.0656 unless the requirements of this section would create an undue economic hardship for the county, municipality, or special district in the rural area of opportunity.

Section 5. Section 403.9302, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

403.9302 Stormwater management projections.—

(1) The Legislature intends for each county, municipality, or special district providing a stormwater management program or stormwater management system to create a 20-year needs analysis.

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) “Facility” means any equipment, structure, or other property, including conveyance systems, used or useful in connection with providing a stormwater management program or stormwater management system.

(b) “Stormwater management program” has the same meaning as provided in s. 403.031(15).

(c) “Stormwater management system” has the same meaning as provided in s. 403.031(16).

(3) By June 30, 2022, and every 5 years thereafter, each county, municipality, or special district providing a stormwater management program or stormwater management system shall develop a needs analysis for its jurisdiction over the subsequent 20 years. In projecting such needs, each local government shall include the following:

(a) A detailed description of the stormwater management program or stormwater management system and its facilities and projects.

(b) The number of current and projected residents served calculated in 5-year increments.

(c) The current and projected service area for the stormwater management program or stormwater management system.

(d) The current and projected cost of providing services calculated in 5-year increments.

(e) The estimated remaining useful life of each facility or its major components.

(f) The most recent 5-year history of annual contributions to, expenditures from, and balances of any capital account for maintenance or expansion of any facility or its major components.

(g) The local government’s plan to fund the maintenance or expansion of any facility or its major components. The plan must include historical and estimated future revenues and expenditures with an evaluation of how the local government expects to close any projected funding gap.

(4) Upon completing the requirements of subsection (3), each municipality or special district shall submit its needs analysis, as well as the

methodology and any supporting data necessary to interpret the results, to the county within which the largest portion of its stormwater management program or stormwater management system is located. Each county shall compile all analyses submitted to it under this subsection into a single document and include its own analysis in the document. The county shall file the compiled document with the Secretary of Environmental Protection and the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research no later than July 31, 2022, and every 5 years thereafter.

(5) The Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall evaluate the compiled documents from the counties for the purpose of developing a statewide analysis for inclusion in the assessment due January 1, 2023, pursuant to s. 403.928.

(6) This section applies to a rural area of opportunity as defined in s. 288.0656 unless the requirements of this section would create an undue economic hardship for the county, municipality, or special district in the rural area of opportunity.

Section 6. The Legislature determines and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Approved by the Governor June 29, 2021.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 29, 2021.