

SENATE BILL 2715

By Gardenhire

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3;  
Title 4; Title 8; Title 9; Title 12 and Title 49, relative  
to acquisition of goods and services by the state.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-7-112(c), is amended by adding the following new subdivision:

( ) Noncompetitive procurement agreements, including, but not limited to, noncompetitive grants and contracts;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-56-107(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead the following:

(a)

(1) All requests of the procuring agency to procure goods or services through a noncompetitive contract must be contemporaneously filed with the fiscal review committee of the general assembly, comptroller of the treasury, and the chief procurement officer. For purposes of this section "noncompetitive contract" includes any procurement arrangement, including, but not limited to, a grant.

(2) If review is required pursuant to subsection (a), the procuring agency shall provide the request to the fiscal review committee, which must include the following:

(A) Description of the goods or services to be acquired;

(B) Explanation of the need for or requirement to acquire the goods or services;

(C) Name and address of the proposed contractor's principal owner;

(D) Evidence that the proposed contractor has experience in providing the same or similar goods or services and evidence of the length of time the contractor has provided the same or similar goods or services;

(E) Explanation of whether the goods or services were purchased by the procuring agency in the past, and if applicable, the method used to purchase the goods or services and the name and address of the contractor;

(F) Description of the procuring agency's efforts to use existing state employees and resources, or in the alternative, to identify reasonable and competitive procurement alternatives, rather than to use noncompetitive negotiation;

(G) Justification of why the goods or services should be acquired through noncompetitive negotiation; and

(H) Any additional information that the fiscal review committee may direct the procuring agency to provide that will assist the committee in evaluating the contract.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-56-107, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(c)

(1) No later than the first business day of each calendar month, the chief procurement officer shall report to the director of the fiscal review committee the following information for the prior calendar month:

(A) An itemized listing of all contracts, grants, or any other non-competitive procurement means that were awarded the previous month;

(B) An itemized listing of all contracts, grants, or any other competitive procurement means that were in the process of being negotiated for the previous month; and

(C) Any policy, procedure, or rule change to the state procurement processes planned for the following month.

(2) The reports required pursuant to subdivisions (c)(1)(A) and (c)(1)(B) must include the name of the department or agency for which the procurement is being made, the name and contact information for the vendor, identification of the goods or services being procured, the term on the procurement method, as well as any expenditures and revenue associated with the procurement.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-50-501(a), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision:

( ) The chief procurement officer appointed pursuant to § 4-56-104;

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 12-3-504, is amended by deleting the section and substituting instead the following:

(a) The chief procurement officer may identify goods or services that may not be procured by competitive means because of the existence of a single source of supply.

(b) The chief procurement officer must submit to the procurement commission for approval rules, policies, and procedures prescribing the manner in which such procurements may be accomplished, which may include noncompetitive negotiation.

(c) Goods or services that may not be procured by competitive means because of the existence of a single source of supply must be purchased in accordance with rules, policies, and procedures approved by the procurement commission.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 12-4-114, is amended by deleting subsection (b) and substituting instead the following:

(b)

(1) No public officer or employee who is involved in making or administering a contract on behalf of a public agency may be employed by the

contractor for twenty-four (24) months from the ending of the contract or one (1) year immediately following departure from employment as the public officer or employee, whichever occurs first.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the chief procurement officer shall not be employed by any entity that contracted with the state during the twenty-four-month period immediately following departure from office. For purposes of this subdivision (b)(2), "employed" includes working as an independent contractor.

(c) As used in this section, "immediate family" means spouse, dependent children or stepchildren, or relatives related by blood or marriage.

SECTION 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to all procurements and actions related to procurements occurring thirty (30) days after the effective date of the act.