

HCS HB 2140 -- PUBLIC PURCHASING CONTRACTS (Haefner)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Special Committee on Government Oversight

This bill allows state offices, departments, boards, commissions, bureaus, political subdivisions, agencies, and other institutions to purchase supplies under a cooperative purchasing agreement from certain authorized General Services Administration vendors without regard to competitive bid limits (Section 34.040, RSMo). The Office of Administration maintains oversight and can use cooperative purchasing agreements whenever they are advantageous to the state. The Office of Administration will provide an annual report of cooperative purchasing agreements to the General Assembly. The provisions of the new cooperative purchasing program shall sunset after six years unless reauthorized by the General Assembly, and even if reauthorized will sunset after 12 years.

The bill also explicitly exempts all public institutions of higher education from the definition of "department," which pertains to purchasing requirements (Chapter 34, RSMo). The bill raises the amount for competitive bidding requirements from \$3,000 to \$10,000 and increases an expenditure limit with specified bidding requirements from \$25,000 to \$100,000 (Section 34.010). Reverse auctions for specified goods and the use of negotiation between the state and selected bidders is also authorized in the bill.