

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 6075

As Passed Legislature

Brief Description: Increasing competitive bid limits for the purchase of materials, equipment, or supplies.

Sponsors: Senator Haugen.

Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections

House Committee on Local Government

Background: Counties must follow a certain bidding process when purchasing materials, equipment, or supplies, depending on the dollar value of the contract. For purchase contracts over \$25,000, counties must use a formal competitive bidding process. A solicitation for bids must be advertised in the official county newspaper; bids must be in writing and filed with the county clerk; and the contract must be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

For purchases between \$2,500 and \$25,000, counties may dispense with formal competitive bidding if they use an alternative uniform process. That process requires the county to obtain at least three bids from a list of qualified vendors, and to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

For purchases under \$2,500, counties may dispense with formal competitive bidding upon the order of the county legislative authority.

Summary: Counties may dispense with formal competitive bidding upon the order of the county legislative authority for any purchase under \$5,000. Additionally, an incorrect reference in RCW 36.32.245(4) to a subsection in RCW 39.35A.020 is corrected.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	46	0
House	95	0

Effective: 90 days.