

This newsletter is published on a monthly basis to provide relevant information to government purchasing and contracting professionals regarding public procurement and contracting topics. Hope you enjoy!

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85th Texas Legislative Session Results

The 85th regular legislative session has ended. Below is a list of purchasing and contracting related bills that passed.

Now what? Review the new statutes with your legal department to discuss:

- Understanding and interpretation
- Application and impact
- Implementation - revise or develop policies and procedures to comply with new statutes
- Disseminate information to all appropriate parties

For full text of the bills, see [Texas Legislature Online](#).

HB 89 - Author: King, Phil - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to state contracts with and investments in companies that

Training Schedule



2017 Workshop

Prices:

\$300 (1-day)

\$515 (2-day)

Group Discounts Available



Agile Project Management

October 6, 2017
Austin



Communications & Stakeholder Management in Projects & Contracting

October 5, 2017
Austin



boycott Israel.

HB 101 - Author: Craddick - Effective Immediately Relating to the development of and contracting for reclaimed water facilities in certain municipalities.

HB 1116 - Author: Kacal - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to the repeal of certain state procurement advisory and approval procedures.

HB 1571 - Author: Paddie - Effective Immediately Relating to the use of local government energy savings performance contracts for measures that avoid expected future operating or maintenance costs.

HB 1606 - Author: Huberty- Effective 9-1-17 Relating to the authority of the Texas Military Department to purchase food and beverages.

HB 2121 - Author: Cyrier- Effective Immediately Relating to damages in certain contract claims against the state.

HB 2762 - Author: Workman- Effective Immediately Relating to broker agreements for the sale of certain surplus property by a county.

HB 3021 - Author: Phelan - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to indemnification and duties of engineers and architects under certain governmental contracts.

HB 3275 - Author: Capriglione - Effective 1-1-18 Relating to the monitoring of major information resources projects by the Department of Information Resources.

SB 78 - Author: Nelson - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to the disposition of certain state surplus or salvage data processing equipment.

SB 252 - Author: Taylor, Van - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to prohibiting governmental contracts with a company doing business with Iran, Sudan, or a foreign terrorist organization.

SB 255 - Author: Zaffirini - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to training for governmental entities and vendors, including purchasing and contract management training; authorizing fees.

Contracting in an Agile Project Environment

July 19, 2017
DFW

Essentials of Contract Management

June 28-29, 2017
Austin

Sept. 27-28, 2017
Houston



Effectively Managing Multiple Projects /Contracts & Time Management

July 18, 2017
DFW

Ethics in Contracting

July 13, 2017
DFW

Sept. 12, 2017
Austin

Fundamentals of

SB 261 - Author: Zaffirini - Effective Immediately Relating to the bulk purchase of information technology commodity items by the Department of Information Resources.

SB 262 - Author: Zaffirini - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to certain purchasing by state agencies and local governments.

SB 533 - Author: Nelson - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to state agency contracting.

SB 706 - Author: Birdwell - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to the abolishment of the State Council on Competitive Government and the transfer of its functions to the comptroller.

SB 754 - Author: Perry - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to the extension and modification of a public school district depository contract.

SB 807 - Author: Creighton - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to choice of law and venue for certain construction contracts.

SB 1179 - Author: Nelson - Effective Immediately Relating to purchasing and contracting practices of coordinated county transportation authorities.

SB 1289 - Author: Creighton - Effective 9-1-17 Relating to the purchase of iron and steel products made in the United States for certain governmental entity projects.

SB 1395 - Author: Creighton - Effective Immediately Relating to the powers and duties of navigation districts and port authorities.

SB 1877 - Author: Perry - Effective Immediately Relating to sending notice of proposed contracts for highway projects by email.

Question of the Month

Public Purchasing

Sept. 14-15, 2017
DFW

Dec. 12-13, 2017
Austin

Negotiation Skills

November 14, 2017
DFW

Procurement Management Academy

Sept. 21-22, 2017
Austin

October 4-5, 2017
Houston

Purchasing 101 for Everyone

November 9, 2017
Houston



Schedule Management in Projects & Contracts

November 17, 2017
DFW



QUESTION:

As a local government, there are so many cooperatives available to purchase from - I don't know where to begin. Any advice?



ANSWER:

My purchasing career was with the State of Texas and state agencies cannot purchase from cooperatives - so my experience with them is very limited. However, as an instructor for the last 10 years I have heard a lot about cooperatives from my students.

What I hear from students is that they feel a bit overwhelmed when it comes to deciding which cooperative to use - as there are so many cooperatives available. I understand that a specific concern is how the cooperatives establish contracts. Do they utilize a competitive solicitation and award process?

A recent article from the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) announced that NIGP has a new Accredited Cooperative Program. NIGP's vision for the program is to have a marketplace of quickly identifiable cooperative programs that consistently practice sound public procurement behaviors. The first cooperative to earn the accreditation is U. S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance.

You can read more about the accredited cooperative program on the [NIGP website](#).

Scope Management in Projects & Contracts

*June 27, 2017
Austin*

*November 16, 2017
DFW*

Specification Writing

*September 13, 2017
Austin*

*November 8, 2017
Houston*

Using Request for Proposals

*Oct. 10-11, 2017
DFW*

*Nov. 14-15, 2017
Austin*