



Alaska State Legislature

Representative Anna Fairclough — House District 17

Sponsor Statement

House Bill 204

"An Act relating to the State Procurement Code, including the use of small procurement provisions for certain amounts of leased space, the requirement of Alaska business license proof for Alaska bidder and other procurement preferences, the registration of construction contract bidders and offerors, the establishment and maintenance of lists of persons who want to provide supplies or services to the state, state agencies, and state instrumentalities, electronic bids and proposals, small procurements, signatures, and writings; and providing for an effective date."

House Bill 204 makes changes to the state's procurement code. Collectively, these changes streamline the procurement code to ensure consistent application of the law, and results in a more understandable, efficient procurement process. These changes are needed to prevent failed procurements and provide modern procurement tools and techniques to the State's workforce.

This legislation would clarify Alaska business license requirements for competitive sealed bids and proposals and qualification for the Alaska bidder preference, which should reduce the number of bids and proposals the state currently disqualifies on technical grounds.

The dollar threshold for informal or small procurements is increased, which will simplify many purchases that are now procured via time consuming and more complex formal procurement rules.

HB 204 updates our Procurement Code and provides tools and techniques to our employees. The bill allows for electronic receipt of bids and signatures. The bill also eliminates the requirement to maintain outdated vendor lists in a time when commerce is moving online.

It has been many years since our procurement code has been modernized. These changes will position us to become more efficient and effective in our purchasing and contracting.

I appreciate your support and consideration of this legislation.