

HB 1444 -- PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

SPONSOR: Vescovo

This bill removes the threshold requirement that the project be funded by more than 50% of state funds when the state or any of its agencies are procuring or letting contracts for construction and adds a contract for the repair, remodeling, or demolition of a facility.

The bill also prohibits the state or any of its agencies from issuing or awarding certain incentives or entering into cooperative agreements for specified projects which require that the bid specifications, project agreements, or other controlling documents encourage or discriminate against involvement with labor organizations.

Specified provisions regarding the fairness in public construction laws must not prohibit the state or any of its agencies from awarding certain incentives to or discriminating against a private owner, bidder, contractor, or subcontractor who enters or who is party to an agreement with a labor organization unless the involvement with or refusal to be involved with a labor organization is a required condition of the incentive.

The state or any of its agencies may exempt a particular project, contract, subcontract, grant, tax abatement, or tax credit from the requirements of the fairness in public construction laws if it finds, after public notice and a hearing, that special circumstances require an exemption to avert an imminent threat to public health or safety.

This bill is similar to HB 788 (2015).