

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 5631

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning the University of Washington's alternative process for awarding contracts.

Sponsors: Senators Becker and Frockt.

Senate Committee on Higher Education
House Committee on Higher Education
House Committee on Capital Budget

Background: The University of Washington (UW) has an alternative process for awarding contracts to construct projects in which critical patient care or highly specialized medical research is located. UW Medicine regularly renovates and upgrades its medical facilities and clinical spaces. Oftentimes these projects are highly technical and require specific certifications to ensure that UW Medicine facilities maintain the highest safety standards for patients and health care professionals. To ensure that these projects meet federal safety standards and can be executed in a timely and cost-effective manner, UW uses an alternative contracting process that produces a Critical Care Roster. The Critical Care Roster is a list of qualified firms that have proven expertise and capacity to perform this work to further UW Medicine's public health mission. As a public institution, UW is required to have this process regularly audited by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee to ensure compliance with state contracting laws.

Summary: UW is directed to publish a notice of the existence of the critical patient care or specialized medical research facilities rosters for different trade specialties or categories of anticipated work with the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises in addition to the requirement in statute to publish in a newspaper of general circulation. UW is directed to seek input from the women-owned and minority-owned business community on requirements for eligible contractors to be accepted and remain on the rosters. UW is required to have one representative from the minority-owned community and the women-owned business community on the committee that evaluates the contractors submitting qualifications. The evaluation criteria for selection of contractors to be included on the roster is expanded to include:

- the contractor's record of including the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises certified minority, women, veteran, and small businesses; and

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- the contractor's past history of use of small businesses, disadvantaged business enterprises, and minority women business enterprises over the last five years on projects of \$5 million or less.

The UW business diversity program is directed to establish aspirational goals based on the projected sub contracting opportunities. The UW report to the capital projects advisory review board is expanded to include use rates on projects of Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises certified small business entities, disadvantaged business enterprises, veterans, and women and minority owned businesses.

The termination date for the UW alternative award process of June 30, 2017, is removed.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	45	4
House	68	27

Effective: June 30, 2017