

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5385

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As of January 24, 2023

**Title:** An act relating to work performed by institutions of higher education.

**Brief Description:** Concerning work performed by institutions of higher education.

**Sponsors:** Senators Lias, Holy, Saldaña, Shewmake and Wilson, C..

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Higher Education & Workforce Development: 1/25/23.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Increases bid limits required for public works projects to go through competitive bid processes at public institutions of higher education.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**Staff:** Alicia Kinne-Clawson (786-7407)

**Background:** Public Works Projects. Public entities are required to go through a competitive bid process for public works projects estimated to cost over a certain dollar amount. That amount varies depending on the entity and how many trades may be involved in the project. The awarded contract must go to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest responsive bid.

Bid Limits for Public Institutions of Higher Education. The bid limit established for a competitive sealed bid process for a regional university, state university, or community and technical college (CTC) is limited to an amount equal to or more than \$90,000 for any building, construction, renovation, remodeling, or demolition, or other maintenance and repairs. If the work only involves one trade or craft area, the amount may be equal to or more than \$45,000.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Summary of Bill:** The bid limits established for public works projects at a regional university, state university, or CTC are increased. For any building, construction, renovation, remodeling, or demolition, or other maintenance and repairs, the bid limit is increased from \$90,000 to \$110,000. For work involving only one trade or craft area it is increased from \$45,000 to \$90,000.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 20, 2023.

**Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.