

Government Administration and Elections Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-5453
AN ACT REQUIRING THE ONLINE POSTING OF CERTAIN STATE
Title: CONTRACTS.
Vote Date: 3/29/2022
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/18/2022
File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The reason for the bill is to require the online posting of state contracts that are entered into without being subject to competitive bidding or competitive negotiation. This would allow for public scrutiny of such non-competitive contracts.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Michelle Gilman, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services, offered support of the bill, but requested an amendment. She stated that the bill as written creates an incremental administrative burden by adding new items to an existing list. Section 4a-58 of the Connecticut General Statutes requires DAS to post all standardization transactions on its website and update as appropriate. As such, she requested that the bill be amended to limit the additional online posting requirements to subsection (d) of section 1, which involves state contracts for the purchase of cars or light-duty trucks.

The Freedom of Information Commission, offered testimony in support of this bill, stating that it would increase transparency and accountability in the state government.

CT House Republican Office, offered testimony in support of this bill, stating that there is no current mechanism for the public to examine no-bid contracts or their terms. He stated that the House Republican caucus would support an expansion of the bill to include the posting of memoranda of understanding, and that this would be in the interest of taxpayers and the general public.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

David Godbout, Constituent, expressed opposition to all bills put forward by the committee, under the claim of nullification.

Reported by: Cameron Clarke

Date: 3-29-22