

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

C.S.S.B. 925  
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Natural Resources  
3/7/2001  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, the design-build method of construction alleviates many of the pitfalls inherent in preliminary planning for a project by offering an insured construction method. Design-build is a method of contracting in which an owner hires a competent contractor who in turn hires an architect, structural engineer, mechanical/electrical engineer, civil engineer, and any specialty consultants. All design and construction is handled under one contract. The design team works with the owner from day one to design a building best suited to the owner's needs. The result is a project with a realistic budget, little or no change orders, and effective design from the start.

C.S.S.B. 925 gives navigation districts and port authorities the option of choosing the design-build method when making certain purchases or entering into certain contracts valued at \$25,000 or more.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 60N, Water Code, by adding Section 60.4125, as follows:

Sec. 60.4125. ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR CERTAIN PURCHASES OR CONTRACTS. (a) Authorizes a navigation district or port authority, notwithstanding the other provisions of this subchapter or any other law, to make a purchase or enter into a contract valued at \$25,000 or more by any method available to a school district, including all procedures and limitations, under Chapter 44B (Purchases; Contracts), Education Code, that, in the opinion of the port commission, provides the best value to the navigation district or port authority.

(b) Provides that Subsection (a) of Sec. 60.4125 does not apply to a purchase or a contract for the construction of highways, public roads, public streets, bridges, water supply projects, water plants, wastewater plants, or electric generation facilities.

(c) Provides that Subsection (a) of Sec. 60.4125 does not apply to contracts when the district or port authority is constructing a project for another political subdivision of this state.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.

### **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES**

SECTION 1. Amends As Filed S.B. 925, proposed new Section 60.4125, Chapter 60N, Water Code, as follows:

Sec. 60.4125. Differs from original by adding the text “including all procedures and limitations.” Adds new Subsection (b) to provide that Subsection (a) of Sec. 60.4125 does not apply to a purchase or a contract for the construction of highways, public roads, public streets, bridges, water supply projects, water plants, wastewater plants, or electric generation facilities. Adds new Subsection (c) to provide that Subsection (a) of Sec. 60.4125 does not apply to contracts when the district or port authority is constructing a project for another political subdivision of this state.

SECTION 2. No changes in text.