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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

A bill for an act

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

н. ғ. №. 2189

03/07/2019

1.1

Authored by Theis and Vogel
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

relating to municipal contracting; increasing transparency for certain bids; amending Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 471.345, subdivision 6.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2018, section 471.345, subdivision 6, is amended to read:
Subd. 6. Applicability of other laws; conflict of interest. (a) The purpose of this section
is to establish for all municipalities, uniform dollar limitations upon contracts which shall
or may be entered into on the basis of competitive bids, quotations or purchase or sale in
the open market. To the extent inconsistent with this purpose, all laws governing contracts
by a particular municipality or class thereof are superseded. In all other respects such laws
shall continue applicable.
(b) For contracts subject to subdivisions 3 and 3a, a municipality must avoid the
appearance of a conflict of interest by ensuring that contracts:
(1) do not permit an individual manufacturer to draft a bid specification for the
municipality;
(2) do not allow an entity that has a financial stake in the outcome of the contract to
review the bid with or on behalf of the municipality; or
(3) allow the use of alternative materials that have been certified as equivalent by an
engineer or other expert with knowledge of the product.
(c) When practicable, contracts subject to subdivisions 3 and 3a must use standards by
which equivalencies can be measured for materials and products required for the project.

Section 1. 1