

HB 140 -- CONTRACTING AND PURCHASING BY STATE DEPARTMENTS

SPONSOR: Lewis

The bill allows the Departments of Social Services and Elementary and Secondary Education to purchase services directly from private and public vendors in the State using appropriated funds, covering various services for individuals affected by mental disorders, disabilities, or substance abuse.

This bill specifies that the Commissioner of the Office of Administration, in consultation with the Director(s) of the Department(s), will establish purchasing procedures consistent with the usual State purchasing procedures. The Commissioner will cooperate with each department to purchase services in a timely manner that meets the needs of those served by the Department(s).

The Commissioner may enact rules for reviewing and managing contracts, including the ability to waive bidding procedures if deemed appropriate. Entities disbursing funds for community programs are limited in the fees they can collect based on the amount of funds disbursed from the Department(s).

This bill is the same as HB 2803 (2024).