

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**House Committee On Consumer Protection and Government Effectiveness****Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact**Action Date:** 04/07/15**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments, Be Printed Engrossed And Be Referred To Ways And Means By Prior Reference.**Meeting Dates:** 03/10, 04/07**Vote:**

Yeas: 7 - Buehler, Fagan, Holvey, McLain, Nearman, Rayfield, Stark

Prepared By: Wendy Simons, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Task Force on Citizen Review of Public Works Projects. Specifies membership of Task Force. Directs Task Force to study need for and feasibility of establishing review board to review, approve and oversee state public works projects with contract price over \$30 million and involving geologically sensitive conditions. Directs Task Force to submit report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly relating to public contracting no later than September 15, 2016. Declares emergency, effective upon passage. Sunsets December 31, 2016.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Examples of past state government contracts experiencing delays and cost overruns
- Need for citizen reviewers with right kind of expertise for the type of project under review
- Adding threshold for dollar amount of contract to be subject to review

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Limits scope of review board to public works projects undertaken by a state agency with contract price of \$30 million or more and involving geologically sensitive conditions. Clarifies reference to public works procurement procedures used by state.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2528-A creates an eleven-member Task Force on Citizen Review of Public Works Projects, with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House each appointing two members, including a co-chair, and the Governor appointing seven members with various types of expertise relating to public works and public contracting. The Task Force is directed to consider the expertise needed for a review board on public works, the scope and extent of the board's responsibilities, the need for expert staff, the criteria the board should use for reviewing and approving projects, and the potential effect of the board's review and approval.