



Testimony in Support of HB 4127-A

February 22, 2018

Senate Committee on General Government and Accountability
Oregon State Legislature

Chair Riley and Members of the committee:

Portland Public Schools supports HB 4127-A, which would allow public contracting agencies to consider pricing information when making decisions about awarding architecture and engineering professional services contracts. The current qualifications-based selection (QBS) process requires that contract awards be based solely on qualifications, and prevents the consideration of price.

HB 4127-A provides the option of issuing a Request for Qualifications for consultants, determining that as many as three are qualified, and then requesting pricing proposals from the selected qualified proposers. The district would then make the selection based on qualification AND price.

As PPS continues to modernize its facilities thanks to local support for bond funding, this is a welcome change that will allow the district to request pricing information *before* settling on a qualified firm. The ability to take price into account while evaluating proposals will help us get more competitive pricing for our design work and help us be responsible stewards of taxpayer funding.

Your support of HB 4127-A will help school districts and local governments promote transparency and accountability in our contracting practices.

Thank you,

Courtney Westling
Director of Government Relations
Portland Public Schools