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House District 29

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## **HB 4127 A: Qualification-Based Selection Update**

HB 4127 A updates our QBS process to create more flexibility for localities while remaining true to QBS standards. By creating two pathways, the bill provides a more transparent, accountable, and efficient process for purchasing professional services while preserving the current law for jurisdictions that choose to use the current system.

### **Current Qualification Based Selection Process in ORS 279C.110:**

1. Public agency puts out a Request for Qualifications
2. Qualifications only come back from interested firms
3. Public agency ranks all firms from most qualified to least qualified
4. Public agency must enter a negotiation with the top qualified firm ("Firm A"). At that point, pricing information can be discussed.
5. The public agency either makes a final selection of Firm A, or terminates the negotiation and moves on to Firm B. (The agency may not return to Firm A at any time after terminating that negotiation).

### **Optional Alternative Qualification Based Selection Process as proposed in HB 4127 A:**

1. Public agency puts out a Request for Qualifications
2. Qualifications only come back from interested firms
3. Public selects up to three firms on the basis of qualifications alone. At that point, pricing information can be discussed.
4. The public agency makes a final selection based on negotiations with the qualified firms.

### **Benefits of HB 4127A:**

1. Ensures **qualifications remain the focus** of firm selection
2. Increases **government efficiency** by giving contracting agencies relevant information when they need it
3. Provides **transparency and accountability** around the use of public funds
4. Expands **access to government contracts** to more firms

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