



## **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

### **BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: House Bill 229 seeks to enhance government transparency by requiring public disclosure of information related to government contracts and integrating this data into the Sunshine Portal for easy public access.

### **Key Provisions**

#### **1. Definitions**

- *Contract:* Includes procurement of goods, services, construction, and disbursement of funds via grants.
- *Government Agency:* State agencies, political subdivisions, schools, municipalities.
- *Make Available:* Requires online searchable database and optional email notifications.
- *Protected Information:* Trade secrets or legally confidential data excluded.

#### **2. Public Disclosure Requirements**

- Agencies must publish solicitations (bids, RFPs, RFIs) within one week of issuance.
- Monthly updates to web pages under the Act will be required, including historical data for comparison.
- Agencies must include custodian contact info and maintain links via the DoIT.
- Emergency or sole-source contracts must also be disclosed.

#### **3. Enforcement**

- Violations render contracts to be presumed invalid.
- Enforcement by Attorney General, District Attorney, or individuals via district court (injunction, mandamus).

#### **4. Integration with Sunshine Portal**

- Expands the portal to include:
  - Contract details (recipient, purpose, amounts, copies of contracts and amendments).
  - Resident certificate links for awarded contracts.
  - Directory of agency URLs for transparency compliance.
- The portal remains the primary source for state financial and contractual data.
  - The Sunshine Portal will continue hosting financial data: budgets, expenditures, revenues, appropriations, capital projects, employee directories, open meetings, audits, statutes, and administrative code.
  - Updates will be required monthly for comparison and accountability.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

DoIT estimates that it would cost approximately \$50,000 to make the initial updates to the

Sunshine Portal that would be required to comply with this legislation. After the initial configuration, DoIT should be able to maintain and update the links through DoIT's regular operating budget.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

## **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

DoIT has a contract with a vendor to maintain the Sunshine Portal. Without sufficient appropriations to compensate the vendor for the costs associated with the initial configuration required to comply with this legislation, the administrative impact on DoIT would be extremely burdensome.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

## **ALTERNATIVES**

## **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

## **AMENDMENTS**