2026 PRACTICE BRIEF / STATE CONTRACTS AND PUBLIC PURCHASING

Public contracting
What architecture firms need to know

HB3413, HB3414, HB3415, HB3416, HB3417, HB3419 and HB3420

Effective November 1, 2026, these seven bills update public contracting, transparency and oversight requirements. AIA Oklahoma advocated to preserve architect selection as a professional-services process based on qualifications, rather than subject it to low-bid purchasing procedures. Applicable contract administration and reporting requirements still apply; this brief highlights the changes architects should know.

HB3415 / DATABASE NOW AVAILABLE

Oklahoma Spending Transparency

contracts.ok.gov makes published state-agency spending easier to research by agency, vendor or item. Purchase orders show **anticipated costs**; purchase-card transactions show **actual expenditures**. [19-20]

For architects: Use it to research agency spending and vendor history when preparing for owner conversations. The House explains the database's purpose in the full press release on page 3.

HB3415 Reporting still matters

Who acts	Deadline and responsibility
Firm holding the contract	**Within 10 days** after a subcontractor concludes its work, report completed tasks and its percentage of the total contract to both the agency and OMES Central Purchasing. Do not wait for the main contract to end. [3, §1]
State agency	**Within 30 days** after a key contract milestone or the contract term ends, assess completion, delays and budget performance. [3, §4]

Agencies also document statewide-contract services at agreement entry and list incomplete contracts with estimated completion dates in annual budget submissions. Confirm coverage and filing procedures for your agreement. [3; 12]

HB3413 Supply clear contract and progress information

State budget reports identify contractors, amounts, status and expected completion. Final consultant reports must be public through the state purchasing site or an OMES-approved agency link. Supply consistent agreement names, progress updates and final reports; completed work with an unpaid balance remains active for reporting. [1; 9-10]

HB3414 Identify contract types and digital records

Accounting must distinguish service delivery from staff augmentation. If a digital deliverable qualifies as an intangible asset, the invoice must identify its permanent file location. Ask which deliverables qualify; the law does not automatically classify every drawing or BIM file as an intangible asset or transfer copyright. [2; 9; 12]

Coverage matters: Each law has its own definitions and exemptions. State-agency reporting is not a blanket local duty. Confirm requirements for Title 61 A/E agreements and exempt institutions with the purchasing office. [12; 15-17]

OTHER CHANGES / QUICK REFERENCE

Purchasing, information and ethics

HB3416 County replacement quotes

If the lowest-and-best supplier cannot deliver, authorized replacement quotes are no longer limited to telephone calls; the next-qualified-bidder option remains. The deleted "other services" clause does not direct counties to select architects by lowest fee. Existing purchase and repair limits remain. [4]

HB3417 Optional reverse auctions

Eligible local governments, local-beneficiary trusts and qualifying nonappropriated state entities may use consolidated online reverse-auction procedures. Suppliers remain anonymous to one another; award criteria still apply. Extensions must be announced **at least 15 minutes** before the original close. The municipal amendment concerns statutory council-manager cities. [5; 18]

HB3419 Protect nonpublic government information

The existing corrupt-use rule expressly extends to local governments and current or former officials, employees and contractors. It requires corrupt conduct: misuse for personal gain or specified financial interests, dealing or speculating on the information, improper disclosure, or assisting those acts. **Restrict access** and use information only for the authorized assignment, including after a contract ends. Existing penalties remain, including up to a $10,000 fine, five years in prison, or both upon conviction. [6]

HB3420 Professional services and contract oversight

The law clarifies the state professional-services bid exception while retaining administration, monitoring, auditing and applicable reporting. Covered A/E services continue to use **qualifications-based selection**, followed by negotiation of scope and a fair, reasonable fee. A CM agreement does not automatically qualify for the exception. [7, §3; 8; 14]

Ethics definitions include certain local and otherwise exempt bodies. For one year after a person leaves an agency, that agency generally cannot enter a sole-source or professional-services contract with or for that person's services; exceptions apply. Read HB3279 with HB3420 for purchase-contract certifications at $25,000 or more and written signature delegation. [7, §4; 13]

Other changes limit described pilots to 12 months, remove their blanket purchasing-law exclusion, require records for specified nonbid negotiations, and move the retained monthly sole-source/sole-brand report to OMES's website. One employee flexible-benefits-plan bid exception is removed. [7, §§1-2, 3, 5]

Linked sources

[1] HB3413 enrolled
[2] HB3414 enrolled
[3] HB3415 enrolled
[4] HB3416 enrolled
[5] HB3417 enrolled
[6] HB3419 enrolled
[7] HB3420 enrolled
[8] Title 61, A/E selection
[9] OMES October 2026
[10] OMES HB3413 guidance
[11] OMES HB3415 clarification
[12] Purchasing Manual
[13] §85.42 multiple amendments
[14] 18 O.S. §803
[15] 74 O.S. §85.2
[16] 74 O.S. §85.3A
[17] 62 O.S. §34.3
[18] 11 O.S. §10-101
[19] House press release, Nov. 5
[20] Spending Transparency site

Practice summary revised November 17, 2026. Apply the definitions, exemptions and contract-specific conditions in the linked sources.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA
HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE PRESS RELEASE / NOVEMBER 5, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Strom Legislation Leads to New Public Database Tracking State Contracts

OKLAHOMA CITY – Rep. Judd Strom, R-Copan, commented on the launch of the new Oklahoma Spending Transparency database by the Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES) that gives Oklahomans greater access to information about state agency spending. The database follows transparency reforms championed by Strom during the 2026 legislative session.

"I have always believed taxpayers have a right to not only know how much their government is spending, but where those dollars are going and what they are getting in return," said Strom, who chairs the House General Government Appropriations and Budget Committee.

"State contracts should be transparent so communities can understand the cost and scope of public projects, ask informed questions about their progress and see how taxpayer dollars are being used. By making this information more accessible and in one place, we are giving Oklahomans the tools to identify concerns and evaluate spending decisions while holding government accountable."

According to OMES, the database allows users to search state agency spending, including vendor information, purchase amounts and transaction dates. It includes both anticipated costs through purchase orders and actual expenditures made with state purchase cards.

The Oklahoma Spending Transparency database follows the passage of House Bill 3415, part of an eight-bill package authored by Strom in 2026 to improve transparency and oversight of state contracts. HB3415 requires subcontractor disclosures, stronger documentation, post-project reviews and a public database detailing state contracts, including vendors, anticipated costs and contracted services.

HB3415 took effect Nov. 1. Oklahomans can access the new Spending Transparency database at contracts.ok.gov.

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Full release reproduced from the Oklahoma House of Representatives; formatting adapted.
Read the original House release online.