

[(vii)] (VIII) a representative of local government who has expertise in local procurement matters, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

[(viii)] (IX) two members of the general public, at least one of whom has expertise in State procurement matters, appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) (i) If the State Treasurer is unable to attend a meeting of the Procurement Advisory Council, the Treasurer may designate the Deputy Treasurer to attend the meeting.

(ii) If a member of the Council listed in paragraph (1) (ii) through (v) of this subsection is unable to attend a meeting of the Procurement Advisory Council, the member may designate the Chief Procurement Officer of the agency to attend the meeting.

(d) The Secretary of the Board is Chairman of the Council.

(e) The Council shall meet at least quarterly each year.

(f) The Procurement Advisor is the principal staff of the Council and the Council shall have any additional staff that the Board authorizes in accordance with the State budget.

(g) The Council shall:

(1) ensure that the State's procurement system is utilizing the most advanced procurement methods and management techniques;

(2) effect and enhance communication between State units on procurement matters, with an emphasis on disseminating information on current developments and advances in procurement methods and management;

(3) provide a forum for the discussion of specific procurement issues and problems that arise;

(4) advise the Board on problems in the procurement process and make recommendations for improvement of the process; and

(5) review existing procurement regulations to:

(i) determine whether they fulfill the intent and purpose of the law, especially as it relates to fostering broad-based competition; and

(ii) make recommendations on the regulations, if revising and restructuring them will result in easier understanding and use.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2005.

Approved April 12, 2005.