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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **HB 6401**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF LOW EMBODIED CARBON CONCRETE IN STATE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) commissioner to revise the specifications for concrete purchased by the state or a bidder for a DAS construction project (e.g., constructing or renovating state buildings) to prefer the purchase of low embodied carbon concrete when feasible. Under the bill, “low embodied carbon concrete” is concrete that has reduced global warming potential, in kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent per cubic meter, compared to industry averages. The bill requires using low embodied carbon concrete for DAS projects when it is (1) available, (2) consistent with public safety, and (3) within 10% of the cost of non-low embodied carbon concrete.

Existing law requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) commissioner to adopt regulations on putting contracts for DOT-owned building projects estimated to cost more than \$500,000 out to bid and evaluating the bids. The bill additionally requires the regulations to include a preference for bidders using low embodied carbon concrete whenever feasible and consistent with public safety.

The bill also requires the DOT commissioner, when evaluating bids for state highway or bridge projects, to give preference to bidders using low embodied carbon concrete whenever feasible and consistent with public safety.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 6 (03/24/2023)