• Authorizes Lt. Governor and Speaker (in addition to Governor) to initiate enhanced contract monitoring;
• Adds the Comptroller to the Quality Assurance Team (QAT);
• Requires agencies to submit to the QAT a technical architectural assessment for major IT projects and contracts;
• Requires agency project delivery frameworks be recognized as a best practice for major information resources projects and contracts;
• Increases the cap on cooperative IT contracts from $1m to $5m;
• Clarifies that agencies may communicate with the private sector;
• Lowers threshold for Contract Oversight Team review from $10 to $5m;
• Establishes a Chief Procurement Officer in the Comptroller's office to coordinate contracting across agencies and leverage purchasing power;
• Clarifies that conflicts of interest are prohibited from the beginning of contract negotiations until the expiration of the contract;
• Requires the Texas Education Agency to follow state guidelines when contracting with Education Service Centers;
• Removes duplicative posting requirements;
• Clarifies that sensitive information in contracts not be posted online;
• And it allows the federal government and other states to purchase off of pre-negotiated contracts from the Comptroller.