Introduced by Transportation and Telecommunications.

1. Insert the following new section:

Sec. 4. Section 39-1351, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, is amended to read:

39-1351 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, any person desiring to submit to the department a bid for the performance of any contract for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance, or repair of roads, bridges, and their appurtenances, which the department proposes to let, shall apply to the department for prequalification. Such application shall be made not later than five days before the letting of the contract unless fewer than five days is specified by the department. The department shall determine the extent of any applicant's qualifications by a full and appropriate evaluation of the applicant's experience, bonding capacity as determined by a bonding agency licensed to do business in the State of Nebraska or other sufficient financial showing deemed satisfactory by the department, and performance record. In determining the qualification of an applicant to bid on any particular contract, the department shall consider the resources available for the particular contract contemplated.
(2) The department may, in its sole discretion, grant an exemption from all prequalification requirements for (a) any contract for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance, or repair of roads, bridges, and their appurtenances if the estimate of the department for such work is two hundred fifty one hundred thousand dollars or less or (b) any contract for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance, or repair of roads, bridges, and their appurtenances if such work is of an emergency nature.
2. Renumber the remaining sections and correct the repealer

1 accordingly.

