Request for Cure

Pursuant to 30 ILCS 500/50-57, the Chief Procurement Officer for General Services may, at the request of the State Purchasing Officer and agency head, permit a cure during an active procurement if a violation or deficiency of the Procurement Code, or of the procurement rules, regulations, policies, or practices promulgated by a chief procurement officer occurs.

Instructions for Submission: Complete sections 1-3. The State Purchasing Officer should provide the "Request for Cure" form to the Chief Procurement Officer with documentation as needed to support the request.

1. Procurement Deficiency

1.1 State Agency Name	DPH - Public Health
1.2 BidBuy Reference Number	25-482DPH-HLTHP-B-46592
1.3 Procurement Description	IDPH Media Advertising RFP
1.4 Date Agency notified SPO of the violation or deficiency	Nov 25, 2025

1.5 Provide a clear description of the violation or deficiency, including reference to the statute, rule, regulation, CPO Notice, or practice lacking compliance.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) requests approval to cure a violation of the statutory bid-firm time for the Media Advertising RFP 25-482DPH-HLTHP-B-46592. The bid opened on March 28, 2025. The original 180-day bid-firm period expired on September 23, 2025. All responsive vendors agreed in writing to extend their bids an additional 180 days. The Agency then requested a 159-day extension, but the Chief Procurement Office approved a shorter 90-day extension expiring December 22, 2025. IDPH will not complete the evaluation and Notice of Award by that date. A cure is required under 30 ILCS 500 50 57 because the expiration of the bid-firm period cannot be corrected through amendment or administrative action.

2. Justification to Cure the Violation or Deficiency

Provide a detailed explanation why the benefits of permitting a cure outweigh the potential harm to stakeholders.

Curing this deficiency is in the best interest of the State because delays were caused by extraordinary circumstances outside the Agency's control and unrelated to vendor performance.
Key factors documented in evaluation records and staff correspondence include:
• Technical failure in BidBuy: Several vendors were unable to submit offers due to system issues in the initial publication. CPO-GS directed IDPH to cancel the original RFP (B-43866) and republish to restore fair competition.
• Significant protest delays: Three separate protest windows occurred — March 14–31, May 15–June 11, and July 31–August 28 — consuming 75 days of the evaluation window.
• BEP responsiveness work: From March 31–August 28, IDPH and SPO conducted multiple BEP U-Plan reviews and vendor cures, including cross-checking certifications, company naming discrepancies, and determining responsiveness and responsibility.
• Vendor naming and titling issues: Multiple vendors submitted documents under inconsistent business names, requiring additional clarification and documentation to avoid erroneous determinations of non-responsiveness.
• SPO-required evaluation clarifications: On September 19, 2025, SPO instructed IDPH to revise evaluator comment summaries, including explanations for negative scoring adjustments in desirable categories, to ensure a complete record.
• Evaluator processing delays: Evaluators required three separate meetings to complete a single kickoff session, extending the timeline.
• Holiday and PTO impacts: Evaluator and SPO availability within November further reduced workable days.
All responsive vendors submitted written affirmations agreeing to extend their pricing an additional 180 days when the previous extension was requested , demonstrating full vendor support for continuing this competitive procurement process. Copies of these affirmations are attached.
If cure is denied, the solicitation must be cancelled and republished for the third time. This would materially harm the State by

reducing vendor participation, resetting months of work, increasing administrative burden, and delaying critical public health media services. The harm to the State, vendors, and taxpayers outweighs any benefit of cancellation.

3. Recommended Action Necessary to Cure the Violation or Deficiency

Provide a clear description of the action necessary to cure the violation or deficiency, including the party(ies) that will undertake the action and the time frame to complete each action.

IDPH requests an additional 90-day cure period beginning December 22, 2025. Remaining actions include:

December 22 – January 12
- Final SPO review of evaluator clarifications
- APO/SPO approval to proceed to outlier analysis
- Issuance of demonstration scheduling notice with required 14-day vendor preparation period

January 12 – January 30
- Conduct vendor demonstrations
- Evaluators finalize demonstration scoring
- Compilation of full cumulative scoring across all evaluators

February 2 – February 13
- APO/SPO full scoring review
- SR SPO concurrence on responsiveness and responsibility
- Preparation and issuance of non-responsive and not-responsible notices

February 20 – February 27
- Notice of Award approval by SPO and ASPO
- Begin 14-day protest period

March 1 – March 21
- Completion of any required protest resolution
- Preparation and routing of execution packet

All required actions can be completed within the requested extension window.

4. Agency Head and State Purchasing Officer Attestation

The agency head (designee not permitted) and State Purchasing Officer (SPO) individually attest: "I believe the integrity, transparency, and efficiency of the procurement can be maintained while permitting the cure."

Agency Head Name	Sameer Vohra	Date	Dec 8, 2025
Agency Head Signature	Sameer Vohra — Digitally signed by Sameer Vohra Date: 2025.12.09 10:28:30 -06'00'		
SPO Name	Rebecca Gossett	Date	12/16/2025
SPO Signature	Rebecca Gossett — Digitally signed by Rebecca Gossett Date: 2025.12.16 08:58:05 -06'00'		

Request for Cure

5. Required Action to Cure or Rationale for Denying the Cure Request

The Bid/Proposal Firm Time for Pricing to be extended an additional 90 days to March 22, 2026 to allow for the agency to complete procurement activities on its proposed time schedule.

6. Chief Procurement Officer for General Services Determination

6.1 ☒ I authorize curing the violation or deficiency when following the action in section 5.

6.2 ☐ I deny the request to cure the violation or deficiency in subsection 1.4 based on the rationale in section 5.

Ellen H. Daley Signature Ellen Holzman Daley Digitally signed by Ellen Holzman Daley Date: 2025.12.18 07:04:30 -06'00'

Date Dec 18, 2025