

## KERATAN AKHBAR

TARIKH : 9 SEPTEMBER 2025  
AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIME  
MUKA : 6  
SURAT

### Govt procurement bill passed

VS / Nation

GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

# GOVT PROCUREMENT BILL PASSED

Finance minister's decision can now be challenged, says Amir Hamzah

KUALA LUMPUR

**T**HE Dewan Negara yesterday passed the Government Procurement Bill 2025, which aims to provide for the duties, accountability, governance and transparency in government procurement.

The bill was passed via voting, with 33 senators in favour, eight dissenting, two not voting, and 14 absent.

Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan gave his assurance that the Finance Ministry has taken all suggestions into account, especially in drafting regulations and orders, to enhance the criteria for direct negotiation procurement and improve the disclosure of direct negotiation procurement awards.

He said the finance minister's decision can now be challenged and reviewed via the review panel process and subsequently the impartial procurement appeal tribunal.

"In addition, the bill also introduces punitive action for any violations, and the finance minister is also not exempt from accountability if he fails to dis-



Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan speaking in the Dewan Negara yesterday. BERNAMA PIC



close his interests or interferes in the procurement process," he said when winding up the Government Procurement Bill 2025 in the Dewan Negara yesterday.

Amir Hamzah said the effectiveness of the enforcement of the punitive action will also be strengthened via a thorough monitoring mechanism and close cooperation between the Finance Ministry and enforcement agencies such as the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission police and the Malaysia Competition Commission.

He said the bill was not tabled in haste because the government's efforts to draft the bill had begun in 2018 as an institutional reform measure, but it was temporarily delayed due to the change of government administration in 2020 until November 2022. **Bernama**

