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HOUSE BILL NO. 1581

Offered January 12, 2011

Prefiled January 5, 2011

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-1111, 2.2-1402, and 2.2-2012 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 2.2-4310.1, relating to the Virginia Public Procurement Act; establishment of historically underutilized business.

Patrons—Dance, Alexander, BaCote, Herring, Howell, A.T., James, Marshall, D.W., McClellan, McQuinn, Spruill, Tyler, Ward and Ware, O.

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 2.2-1111, 2.2-1402, and 2.2-2012 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 2.2-4310.1 as follows:

§ 2.2-1111. Purchases to be made in accordance with the Virginia Public Procurement Act (§ 2.2-4300 et seq.) and regulations of Division; exempt purchases.

A. All purchases made by any department, division, officer or agency of the Commonwealth shall be made in accordance with the Virginia Public Procurement Act (§ 2.2-4300 et seq.) and such regulations as the Division may prescribe.

B. The regulations adopted by the Division shall:

1. Include a purchasing plan that shall be on file at the Division and shall be available to the public upon request;

2. Require that before any public body procures any computer system, equipment or software, it shall consider whether the proposed system, equipment or software is capable of producing products that facilitate the rights of the public to access official records under the Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.) or other applicable law;

3. Require state public bodies to procure only shielded outdoor light fixtures and provide for waivers of this requirement when the Division determines that a bona fide operational, temporary, safety or specific aesthetic need is indicated or that such fixtures are not cost effective over the life cycle of the fixtures. For the purposes of this subdivision, "shielded outdoor light fixture" means an outdoor light fixture that is (i) fully shielded so that no light rays are emitted by the installed fixture above the horizontal plane or (ii) constructed so that no more than two percent of the total luminaire lumens in the zone of 90 to 180 degrees vertical angle is permitted, if the related output of the luminaire is greater than 3200 lumens. In adopting regulations under this subdivision, the Division shall consider national standards for outdoor lighting as adopted by the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA).

For any project initiated on or after July 1, 2003, the Virginia Department of Transportation shall design all lighting systems in accordance with current IESNA standards and recommended practices. The lighting system shall utilize fixtures that minimize glare, light trespass, and skyglow, all as defined by the IESNA, while still providing a comfortable, visually effective, safe, and secure outdoor environment in a cost-effective manner over the life cycle of the lighting system;

4. Establish the conditions under which a public body may use, as a basis for the procurement of goods and nonprofessional services, a particular vendor's contract-pricing that has been negotiated and accepted by the U.S. General Services Administration;

5. Establish procurement preferences for products containing recycled oil (including reprocessed and rerefined oil products) and recycled antifreeze no later than December 31, 2002;

6. Establish conditions under which a public body shall demonstrate a good faith effort to ensure that state contracts or subcontracts for goods or services that involve the manual packaging of bulk supplies or the manual assemblage of goods where individual items weigh less than 50 pounds be offered to nonprofit sheltered workshops or other nonprofit organizations that offer transitional or supported employment services serving the handicapped;

7. Require that on or before October 1, 2009, and every two years thereafter, the Director of the Department of General Services shall solicit from each state agency and public institution of higher education a list of procurements falling under the Department's authority that were competed with the private sector that appear on the Commonwealth Competition Council's commercial activities list and were, until that time, being performed by each state agency and public institution of higher education during the previous two years, and the outcome of that competition. The Director shall make the lists available to the public on the Department of General Services' website; and

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58 8. Establish the conditions under which state public bodies may procure diesel fuel containing, at a
59 minimum, two percent, by volume, biodiesel fuel or green diesel fuel, as defined in § 45.1-394, for use
60 in on-road internal combustion engines. The conditions shall take into consideration the availability of
61 such fuel and the variability in cost of biodiesel fuel with respect to unblended diesel fuel: *and*

62 9. *Establish procurement regulations pursuant to the provisions of § 2.2-4310.1 for the utilization of*
63 *small businesses located in historically underutilized business zones (HUB zones) in Virginia.*

64 C. The Division may make, alter, amend or repeal regulations relating to the purchase of materials,
65 supplies, equipment, nonprofessional services, and printing, and may specifically exempt purchases
66 below a stated amount or particular agencies or specified materials, equipment, nonprofessional services,
67 supplies and printing.

68 § 2.2-1402. Additional powers and duties of Department.

69 The Department shall have the following additional powers and duties:

70 1. Coordinate as consistent with prevailing law the plans, programs and operations of the state
71 government that affect or may contribute to the establishment, preservation, and strengthening of small,
72 women-owned, and minority-owned businesses.

73 2. Promote the mobilization of activities and resources of state and local governments, businesses and
74 trade associations, universities, foundations, professional organizations, and volunteer and other groups
75 towards the growth of small businesses and businesses owned by women and minorities, and facilitate
76 the coordination of the efforts of these groups with those of state departments and agencies.

77 3. Establish a center for the development, collection, summarization, and dissemination of
78 information that will be helpful to persons and organizations throughout the nation in undertaking or
79 promoting procurement from small, women-owned, and minority-owned businesses.

80 4. Consistent with prevailing law and availability of funds, and according to the Director's discretion,
81 provide technical and management assistance to small, women-owned, and minority-owned businesses,
82 and defray all or part of the costs of pilot or demonstration projects that are designed to overcome the
83 special problems of small, women-owned, and minority-owned businesses.

84 5. Manage the Capital Access Fund for Disadvantaged Businesses created pursuant to § 2.2-2311,
85 and, in cooperation with the Small Business Financing Authority, determine the qualifications, terms,
86 and conditions for the use of such Fund.

87 6. Implement any remediation or enhancement measure for small, women-owned, or minority-owned
88 businesses as may be authorized by the Governor pursuant to subsection C of § 2.2-4310 *or* § 2.2-4310.1
89 and develop regulations, consistent with prevailing law, for program implementation. Such regulations
90 shall be developed in consultation with the state agencies with procurement responsibility and
91 promulgated by those agencies in accordance with applicable law.

92 § 2.2-2012. Procurement of information technology and telecommunications goods and services;
93 computer equipment to be based on performance-based specifications.

94 A. Information technology and telecommunications goods and services of every description shall be
95 procured by (i) VITA for its own benefit or on behalf of other state agencies and institutions or (ii) such
96 other agencies or institutions to the extent authorized by VITA. Such procurements shall be made in
97 accordance with the Virginia Public Procurement Act (§ 2.2-4300 et seq.), regulations that implement the
98 electronic and information technology accessibility standards of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29
99 U.S.C. § 794d), as amended, and any regulations as may be prescribed by VITA. In no case shall such
100 procurements exceed the requirements of the regulations that implement the electronic and information
101 technology accessibility standards of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

102 The CIO shall disapprove any procurement that does not conform to the statewide information
103 technology plan or to the individual plans of state agencies or public institutions of higher education.

104 B. All statewide contracts and agreements made and entered into by VITA for the purchase of
105 communications services, telecommunications facilities, and information technology goods and services
106 shall provide for the inclusion of counties, cities, and towns in such contracts and agreements.
107 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 2.2-4301, VITA may enter into multiple vendor contracts for the
108 referenced services, facilities, and goods and services.

109 C. The Department may establish contracts for the purchase of personal computers and related
110 devices by licensed teachers employed in a full-time teaching capacity in Virginia public schools or in
111 state educational facilities for use outside the classroom. The computers and related devices shall not be
112 purchased with public funds, but shall be paid for and owned by teachers individually provided that no
113 more than one such computer and related device per year shall be so purchased.

114 D. If VITA, or any agency or institution authorized by VITA, elects to procure personal computers
115 and related peripheral equipment pursuant to any type of blanket purchasing arrangement under which
116 public bodies, as defined in § 2.2-4301, may purchase such goods from any vendor following
117 competitive procurement but without the conduct of an individual procurement by or for the using
118 agency or institution, it shall establish performance-based specifications for the selection of equipment.
119 Establishment of such contracts shall emphasize performance criteria including price, quality, and

120 delivery without regard to "brand name." All vendors meeting the Commonwealth's performance
121 requirements shall be afforded the opportunity to compete for such contracts.

122 E. This section shall not be construed or applied so as to infringe upon, in any manner, the
123 responsibilities for accounting systems assigned to the Comptroller under § 2.2-803.

124 F. The CIO of VITA shall, on or before October 1, 2009, and every two years thereafter, solicit from
125 each state agency and public institution of higher education a list of procurements that were competed
126 with the private sector that appear on the Commonwealth Competition Council's commercial activities
127 list and were, until that time, being performed by each state agency and public institution of higher
128 education during the previous two years, and the outcome of that competition. The CIO shall make the
129 lists available to the public on VITA's website.

130 G. *The CIO of VITA shall establish procurement regulations pursuant to the provisions of*
131 *§ 2.2-4310.1 for utilization of small businesses located in historically underutilized business zones (HUB*
132 *zones) in Virginia.*

133 *§ 2.2-4310.1. Establishment of historically underutilized business zones (HUB zones) in Virginia.*

134 A. *All public bodies may establish programs consistent with this chapter to facilitate the participation*
135 *of small businesses as defined in § 2.2-4310 located in historically underutilized business zones (HUB*
136 *zones) in Virginia in procurement transactions. The programs established shall be in writing and shall*
137 *comply with the provisions of any enhancement or remedial measures authorized by the Governor*
138 *pursuant to subsection C of § 2.2-4310 or as otherwise authorized by law, or by the chief executive of a*
139 *local governing body pursuant to § 15.2-965.1, and shall include specific plans to achieve any goals*
140 *established therein.*

141 B. *The Department of Minority Business Enterprise shall certify eligible small businesses for*
142 *participation in the program in accordance with subdivision 6 of § 2.2-1402.*

143 C. *For the purposes of this section:*

144 *"HUB zone" means an area in Virginia as determined by the United States Small Business*
145 *Administration pursuant to relevant federal law. For purposes of determining HUB zone locations for*
146 *inclusion in programs established to facilitate the participation of small businesses, a public body may*
147 *rely upon the accuracy of the information made available by the United States Small Business*
148 *Administration.*