

2011 -- H 5823

LC00603

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO MAKING IT EASIER TO DO BUSINESS IN RHODE ISLAND - PUBLIC
PROPERTY AND WORKS

Introduced By: Representatives Walsh, Valencia, Ferri, Ruggiero, and Azzinaro

Date Introduced: March 03, 2011

Referred To: House Small Business

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 37-2-59.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-2 entitled "State
2 Purchases" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **37-2-59.1. Selection of professionals with place of business located in Rhode Island. -**

4 § The state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations has a large number of architectural,
5 engineering, and consulting firms well qualified in their fields of endeavor. ~~In~~ Except where
6 expressly forbidden by federal purchasing policy in instances where contracts are ~~entirely~~ wholly
7 or partially supported by state funds, ~~it is in the best interest of the state~~ pursuant to the provisions
8 of sections 37-2-59 -- 37-2-69 ~~that all other things being equal~~, the services of these qualified and
9 capable resident professionals with offices in Rhode Island, possessing experience with
10 comparable site and scope projects built in Rhode Island or secondly those non-resident
11 professionals who propose a ~~joint-venture~~ partnering with a Rhode Island firm, ~~be utilized.~~
12 wherein the Rhode Island firm is lead/prime, shall be selected, contingent upon the consideration
13 of resident professionals' qualifications and performance data pursuant to section 37-2-62, and
14 fair and reasonable prices pursuant to section 37-2-59.

15 For the purposes of this section, a "non-resident professional" shall mean a business that
16 is not a resident of the State of Rhode Island, that submits a bid in response to an invitation to bid
17 by a state agency; "resident professional" shall mean a business that submits a bid in response to
18 an invitation to bid by a state agency and whose main office is located in this state that has paid

1 unemployment and income taxes in this state during the twelve (12) calendar months immediately
2 preceding submission of such a bid that has a business address in this state, and that has
3 affirmatively claimed such status in the bid submission.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would primarily promote the selection of resident Rhode Island architectural,
2 engineering and consulting firms and secondly promote those firms which partner with Rhode
3 Island firms for selection in contracts wholly or partially supported by state funds.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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