

2012 -- H 7771

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LC01638  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

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

Introduced By: Representatives Walsh, Ferri, Ucci, Tanzi, and Serpa

Date Introduced: February 16, 2012

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 consulting firms  
2 and secondly promote those firms which partner with Rhode Island firms for selection in  
3 contracts wholly or partially supported by state funds.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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