2012 -- H 7771

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY
JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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:

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

37-2-59.1. Selection of professionals with place of business located in Rhode Island. - The state of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations has a large number of architectural, engineering, and consulting firms well qualified in their fields of endeavor. In instances where expressly forbidden by federal purchasing policy, it is in the best interest of the state, pursuant to the provisions of sections 37-2-59 -- 37-2-69 that all other things being equal, the services of these qualified and capable resident professionals with offices in Rhode Island, possessing experience with comparable site and scope projects built in Rhode Island, shall be utilized. The Rhode Island firm is lead/prime, shall be selected, contingent upon the consideration of resident professionals’ qualifications and performance data pursuant to section 37-2-62, and fair and reasonable prices pursuant to section 37-2-59.

For the purposes of this section, a “non-resident professional” shall mean a business that is not a resident of the state of Rhode Island, that submits a bid in response to an invitation to bid by a state agency; "resident professional” shall mean a business that submits a bid in response to an invitation to bid by a state agency and whose main office is located in this state that has paid
unemployment and income taxes in this state during the twelve (12) calendar months immediately preceding submission of such a bid that has a business address in this state, and that has affirmatively claimed such status in the bid submission.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.
EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
AN ACT
RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS - MAKING IT EASIER TO DO BUSINESS IN RHODE ISLAND

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

This act would take effect upon passage.