

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging Indiana to encourage greater procurement of prime state contracts by minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

BREAUX

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2011)

SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging Indiana to encourage greater procurement of prime state contracts by minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

Whereas, The Governor's Commission on Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (The Commission) was created in 1983 to help explore opportunities and implement activities that enable minority-owned and women-owned businesses to fully participate in the state contract procurement system;

Whereas, The Commission oversees the state's minority and women owned business program (MBE/WBE Program). Each year the Commission sets participation goals for the percentage of state contracts awarded to minority-owned and women-owned businesses;

Whereas, The MBE/WBE Program calls for the State of Indiana to encourage use of minority-owned and women-owned businesses in its contracting and procurement of prime contractors;

Whereas, Despite these efforts, according to a 2010 Indiana Disparity Study, minority and women owned businesses

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have been substantially underutilized on state contracts and this underutilization was even more pronounced for the awarding of prime contracts;

Whereas, There are fewer opportunities for prime contracts for minority-owned and women-owned businesses, which can impede growth and capacity of these businesses;

Whereas, Indiana should encourage more opportunities for minority-owned and women-owned businesses to receive prime contract; and

Whereas, encouragement of prime contracts could be done by increasing the number of contracts available for small businesses and by reviewing prequalification, bonding and insurance requirements to ensure that they do not act as barriers to smaller and newer firms; therefore

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes the importance
2 of having successful minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

3 SECTION 2. That the Governor's Commission on Minority and
4 Women's Business Enterprise is urged to encourage the growth and
5 success of minority-owned and women-owned businesses by making
6 available more prime contracting opportunities for minority-owned
7 and women-owned businesses.

