## SHB 1259 - H AMD 318

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By Representative Santos

## WITHDRAWN 03/03/2021

- 1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 2 following:
- 3 "Sec. 1. RCW 39.19.020 and 2019 c 434 s 2 are each amended to 4 read as follows:
- 5 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter 6 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
  - (1) "Advisory committee" means the advisory committee on minority and women's business enterprises.
  - (2) "Broker" means a person that provides a bona fide service, such as professional, technical, consultant, brokerage, or managerial services and assistance in the procurement of essential personnel, facilities, equipment, materials, or supplies required for performance of a contract.
  - (3) "Contractor" means an individual or entity granted state certification and awarded either a direct contract with an agency or an indirect contract as a subcontractor to perform a service or provide goods.
- (4) "Debar" means to prohibit a contractor, individual, or other entity from submitting a bid, having a bid considered, or entering into a state contract during a specified period of time as set forth in a debarment order.
- 22 <u>(5)</u> "Director" means the director of the office of minority and women's business enterprises.
- $((\frac{(5)}{(5)}))$  <u>(6)</u> "Educational institutions" means the state universities, the regional universities, The Evergreen State College, and the community colleges.
- 27 ((<del>(6)</del>)) <u>(7)</u> "Goals" means annual overall agency goals, expressed 28 as a percentage of dollar volume, for participation by minority and 29 women-owned and controlled businesses and shall not be construed as a 30 minimum goal for any particular contract or for any particular 31 geographical area. It is the intent of this chapter that such overall

- agency goals shall be achievable and shall be met on a contract-bycontract or class-of-contract basis.
- 3 (((+7))) (8) "Goods and/or services" includes professional services and all other goods and services.
- 5  $((\frac{(8)}{(9)}))$  "Office" means the office of minority and women's 6 business enterprises.
- 7 ((<del>(9)</del>)) <u>(10)</u> "Person" includes one or more individuals, 8 partnerships, associations, organizations, corporations, 9 cooperatives, legal representatives, trustees and receivers, or any 10 group of persons.
- 11  $((\frac{(10)}{(10)}))$  <u>(11)</u> "Procurement" means the purchase, lease, or rental 12 of any goods or services.
- 13 ((<del>(11)</del>)) <u>(12)</u> "Public works" means all work, construction, 14 highway and ferry construction, alteration, repair, or improvement 15 other than ordinary maintenance, which a state agency or educational 16 institution is authorized or required by law to undertake.
- $((\frac{(12)}{(12)}))$  "State agency" includes the state of Washington and all agencies, departments, offices, divisions, boards, commissions, and correctional and other types of institutions.
- 20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 39.19.060 and 2019 c 434 s 3 are each amended to 21 read as follows:

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- (1) Each state agency and educational institution shall comply with the annual goals established for that agency or institution under this chapter for public works and procuring goods or services. This chapter applies to all public works and procurement by state agencies and educational institutions, including all contracts and other procurement under chapters 28B.10, 39.04, 39.26, 43.19, and 47.28 RCW.
- (2) Each state agency shall adopt a plan, developed in consultation with the director and the advisory committee, to ensure that minority and women-owned businesses are afforded the maximum practicable opportunity to directly and meaningfully participate in the execution of public contracts for public works and goods and services. The plan shall include specific measures the agency will undertake to increase the participation of certified minority and women-owned businesses.
- 37 (3) Of all state agencies and educational institutions, the
  38 office must annually identify those: (a) In the lowest quintile of
  39 utilization of minority and women-owned contractors as a percentage
  Code Rev/AI:eab

  2 H-1173.1/21

- of all contracts issued by the agency; (b) in the lowest quintile of the dollar value awarded to minority and women-owned contractors as a percentage of the dollar value of all contracts issued by the agency; and (c) that are performing significantly below their established goals, as determined by the office. The office must meet with each identified agency to review its plan and identify available tools and
- 8 (4) The office shall annually notify the governor, the state 9 auditor, and the joint legislative audit and review committee of all 10 agencies and educational institutions not in compliance with this 11 chapter.

actions for increasing participation.

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- 12 **Sec. 3.** RCW 39.19.080 and 1987 c 328 s 5 are each amended to 13 read as follows:
- 14  $((\frac{1}{1}))$  A person, firm, corporation, business, union, or other 15 organization shall not:
- 16  $((\frac{1}{2}))$  <u>(1)</u> Prevent or interfere with a contractor's or subcontractor's compliance with this chapter, or any rule adopted under this chapter;
- 19  $((\frac{b}{b}))$  <u>(2)</u> Submit false or fraudulent information to the state concerning compliance with this chapter or any such rule;
  - ((<del>(c)</del>)) <u>(3)</u> Fraudulently obtain, retain, attempt to obtain or retain, or aid another in fraudulently obtaining or retaining or attempting to obtain or retain certification as a minority or women's business enterprise for the purpose of this chapter;
  - ((<del>(d)</del>)) <u>(4)</u> Knowingly make a false statement, whether by affidavit, verified statement, report, or other representation, to a state official or employee for the purpose of influencing the certification or denial of certification of any entity as a minority or women's business enterprise;
  - ((<del>(e)</del>)) <u>(5)</u> Knowingly obstruct, impede, or attempt to obstruct or impede any state official or employee who is investigating the qualification of a business entity that has requested certification as a minority or women's business enterprise;
- $((\frac{f}{f}))$  (6) Fraudulently obtain, attempt to obtain, or aid another person in fraudulently obtaining or attempting to obtain public moneys to which the person is not entitled under this chapter; or

1 ((<del>(g)</del>)) <u>(7)</u> Knowingly make false statements that any entity is or 2 is not certified as a minority or women's business enterprise for 3 purposes of obtaining a contract governed by this chapter.

- (((2) Any person or entity violating this chapter or any rule adopted under this chapter shall be subject to the penalties in RCW 39.19.090. Nothing in this section prevents the state agency or educational institution from pursuing such procedures or sanctions as are otherwise provided by statute, rule, or contract provision.))
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 39.19.090 and 1987 c 328 s 6 are each amended to 10 read as follows:
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  - (b) If a person, firm, corporation, or business commits any of the activities prohibited in RCW 39.19.080, the state must impose one or more of the following penalties: Withholding payment, decertifying the contractor, debarring the contractor for a period between one and three years, terminating the contract, or subjecting the contractor to civil penalties of between two and 10 percent of the amount of the contract or between \$1 and \$5,000 for each violation.
  - (c) In addition to any other penalties imposed, willful repeated violations, exceeding a single violation, ((may)) must disqualify the contractor from further participation in state contracts for a period of ((up to)) three years. A willful violation includes a conscious or deliberate false statement, misrepresentation, omission, or concealment of a material fact, with the specific intent of obtaining, continuing, or increasing benefits under this chapter.
- 37 <u>(2)</u> An apparent low-bidder must be in compliance with the 38 contract provisions required under this chapter as a condition

1 precedent to the granting of a notice of award by any state agency or 2 educational institution.

- (3) The office shall follow administrative procedures under chapter 34.05 RCW in determining a violation and imposing penalties under this chapter. The office shall adopt by rule criteria for the imposition of penalties under this section. The rule may incorporate the debarment process authorized for the department of enterprise services in RCW 39.26.200.
- 9 <u>(4)(a) An audit and review unit is established within the office</u>
  10 <u>for the purpose of detecting and investigating fraud and violations</u>
  11 <u>of this chapter. The office must employ qualified personnel for the</u>
  12 unit.
  - (b) For the purpose of any investigation or proceeding under this chapter, the director or the director's designee may administer oaths and affirmations, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, agreements, or other documents or records that the director or the director's designee deems relevant or material to the inquiry.
- 20 <u>(c) Subpoenas issued under this section may be enforced under RCW</u>
  21 <u>34.05.588.</u>
  - (d) The audit and review unit must annually:
- (i) Conduct a site review of a minimum of three percent of persons, firms, corporations, or businesses awarded a contract under this chapter;
  - (ii) Submit a response for all complaints for investigation made by an external agency to the agency submitting the complaint;
  - (iii) Develop and implement a process for prioritizing and conducting thorough investigations of persons, firms, corporations, or businesses identified by an external complaint and determined to be the highest priority for the agency; and
  - (iv) Develop and implement a process for prioritizing and conducting thorough investigations of persons, firms, corporations, or businesses internally identified and determined to be the highest priority for the agency.
- 36 <u>(5)</u> The procedures and sanctions in this section are not exclusive; nothing in this section prevents the state agency or educational institution administering the contracts from pursuing such procedures or sanctions as are otherwise provided by statute, rule, or contract provision.

- NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 39.19
  RCW to read as follows:
  - (1) The director or director's designee may apply for and obtain a superior court order approving and authorizing a subpoena in advance of its issuance. The application may be made in the county where the subpoenaed person resides or is found, or the county where the subpoenaed documents, records, or evidence are located, or in Thurston county. The application must:
    - (a) State that an order is sought under this section;

- 10 (b) Adequately specify the documents, records, evidence, or 11 testimony; and
  - (c) Include a declaration made under oath that an investigation is being conducted for a lawfully authorized purpose related to an investigation within the office's authority and that the subpoenaed documents, records, evidence, or testimony are reasonably related to an investigation within the office's authority.
  - (2) When an application under this section is made to the satisfaction of the court, the court must issue an order approving the subpoena. An order under this subsection constitutes authority of law for the agency to subpoena the documents, records, evidence, or testimony.
  - (3) The director or director's designee may seek approval and a court may issue an order under this section without prior notice to any person, including the person to whom the subpoena is directed and the person who is the subject of an investigation. An application for court approval is subject to the fee and process set forth in RCW 36.18.012(3).
- **Sec. 6.** RCW 39.19.200 and 1993 c 195 s 1 are each amended to 29 read as follows:

The minority and women's business enterprises account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from RCW 39.19.210, 39.19.220, and 39.19.230 and civil penalties imposed under RCW 39.19.090 shall be deposited in the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the purposes defraying all or part of the costs of the office in administering this chapter. Only the director or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. Moneys in the account may be spent appropriation.

**Sec. 7.** RCW 39.19.250 and 2019 c 434 s 4 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

- (1) For the purpose of annual reporting on progress required by ((section 1 of this act)) this chapter, each state agency and educational institution shall submit data to the office and the office of minority and women's business enterprises on the participation by qualified minority and women-owned and controlled businesses in the agency's or institution's contracts and other related information requested by the director. The director of the office of minority and women's business enterprises shall determine the content and format of the data and the reporting schedule, which must be at least annually.
- (2) The office must develop and maintain a list of contact people at each state agency and educational institution who are able to present to hearings of the appropriate committees of the legislature its progress in carrying out the purposes of chapter 39.19 RCW.
- 17 (3) The office must submit a report aggregating the data received 18 from each state agency and educational institution, and the 19 information identified and actions taken under RCW 39.19.060(3) and 20 39.19.090(4), to the legislature and the governor.
- **Sec. 8.** RCW 39.04.155 and 2019 c 434 s 5 are each amended to 22 read as follows:
  - (1) This section provides uniform small works roster provisions to award contracts for construction, building, renovation, remodeling, alteration, repair, or improvement of real property that may be used by state agencies and by any local government that is expressly authorized to use these provisions. These provisions may be used in lieu of other procedures to award contracts for such work with an estimated cost of ((three hundred fifty thousand dollars)) \$500,000 or less. The small works roster process includes the limited public works process authorized under subsection (3) of this section and any local government authorized to award contracts using the small works roster process under this section may award contracts using the limited public works process under subsection (3) of this section.
  - (2) (a) A state agency or authorized local government may create a single general small works roster, or may create a small works roster for different specialties or categories of anticipated work. Where applicable, small works rosters may make distinctions between Code Rev/AI:eab

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    H-1173.1/21

contractors based upon different geographic areas served by the contractor. The small works roster or rosters shall consist of all responsible contractors who have requested to be on the list, and where required by law are properly licensed or registered to perform such work in this state. A state agency or local government establishing a small works roster or rosters may require eligible contractors desiring to be placed on a roster or rosters to keep records of any applicable licenses, certifications, registrations, bonding, insurance, or other appropriate matters on file with the state agency or local government as a condition of being placed on a roster or rosters. At least once a year, the state agency or local government shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation within the jurisdiction a notice of the existence of the roster or rosters and solicit the names of contractors for such roster or rosters. In addition, responsible contractors shall be added to an appropriate roster or rosters at any time they submit a written request and necessary records. Master contracts may be required to be signed that become effective when a specific award is made using a small works roster.

(b) A state agency establishing a small works roster or rosters shall adopt rules implementing this subsection. A local government establishing a small works roster or rosters shall adopt an ordinance or resolution implementing this subsection. Procedures included in rules adopted by the department of enterprise services in implementing this subsection must be included in any rules providing for a small works roster or rosters that is adopted by another state agency, if the authority for that state agency to engage in these activities has been delegated to it by the department of enterprise services under chapter 43.19 RCW. An interlocal contract or agreement between two or more state agencies or local governments establishing a small works roster or rosters to be used by the parties to the agreement or contract must clearly identify the lead entity that is responsible for implementing the provisions of this subsection.

(c) Procedures shall be established for securing telephone, written, or electronic quotations from contractors on the appropriate small works roster to assure that a competitive price is established and to award contracts to the lowest responsible bidder, as defined in RCW 39.04.010. Invitations for quotations shall include an estimate of the scope and nature of the work to be performed as well as materials and equipment to be furnished. However, detailed plans

1 and specifications need not be included in the invitation. This subsection does not eliminate other requirements for architectural or 2 engineering approvals as to quality and compliance with building 3 codes. Quotations may be invited from all appropriate contractors on 4 the appropriate small works roster. As an alternative, quotations may 5 6 be invited from at least five contractors on the appropriate small works roster who have indicated the capability of performing the kind 7 of work being contracted, in a manner that will equitably distribute 8 the opportunity among the contractors on the appropriate roster. 9 However, if the estimated cost of the work is from ((two hundred 10 fifty thousand dollars)) \$150,000 to ((three hundred fifty thousand 11 12 dollars)) \$500,000, a state agency or local government that chooses to solicit bids from less than all the appropriate contractors on the 13 appropriate small works roster must also notify the 14 contractors on the appropriate small works roster that quotations on 15 16 the work are being sought. The government has the sole option of 17 determining whether this notice to the remaining contractors is made by: (i) Publishing notice in a legal newspaper in general circulation 18 19 in the area where the work is to be done; (ii) mailing a notice to these contractors; or (iii) sending a notice to these contractors by 20 facsimile or other electronic means. For purposes of this subsection 21 22 (2)(c), "equitably distribute" means that a state agency or local 23 government soliciting bids may not favor certain contractors on the appropriate small works roster over other contractors on the 24 25 appropriate small works roster who perform similar services.

(d) A contract awarded from a small works roster under this section need not be advertised.

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- (e) Immediately after an award is made, the bid quotations obtained shall be recorded, open to public inspection, and available by at least one of the following: Telephone or electronic request.
- 31 (f) For projects awarded under the small works roster process 32 established under this subsection, a state agency or authorized local 33 may waive the retainage requirements government RCW 60.28.011(1)(a), thereby assuming the liability for contractor's 34 of: (i) mechanics, 35 nonpayment Laborers, subcontractors, materialpersons, and suppliers; and 36 (ii) taxes, increases, and penalties under Titles 50, 51, and 82 RCW that may be due from the 37 contractor for the project. However, the state agency or local 38 39 government has the right of recovery against the contractor for any 40 payments made on the contractor's behalf. Recovery of unpaid wages

and benefits are the first priority for actions filed against the contract.

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- (3) (a) In lieu of awarding contracts under subsection (2) of this section, a state agency or authorized local government may award a contract for work, construction, alteration, repair, or improvement projects estimated to cost less than ((fifty thousand dollars)) \$150,000 using the limited public works process provided under this subsection. Public works projects awarded under this subsection are exempt from the other requirements of the small works roster process provided under subsection (2) of this section and are exempt from the requirement that contracts be awarded after advertisement as provided under RCW 39.04.010.
- (b) For limited public works projects, a state agency or authorized local government shall solicit electronic or written quotations from a minimum of three contractors from the appropriate small works roster and shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder as defined under RCW 39.04.010. After an award is made, the quotations shall be open to public inspection and available by electronic request. A state agency or authorized local government must equitably distribute opportunities for limited public works projects among contractors willing to perform in the geographic area of the work. A state agency or authorized local government shall maintain a list of the contractors contacted and the contracts awarded during the previous ((twenty-four)) 24 months under the limited public works process, including the name of the contractor, the contractor's registration number, the amount of the contract, a brief description of the type of work performed, and the date the contract was awarded. For limited public works projects, a state agency or authorized local government may waive the payment and performance bond requirements of chapter 39.08 RCW and may waive the retainage requirements of RCW 60.28.011(1)(a), thereby assuming the liability for the contractor's nonpayment of laborers, mechanics, subcontractors, materialpersons, suppliers, and taxes, increases, and penalties imposed under Titles 50, 51, and 82 RCW that may be due from the contractor for the limited public works project, however the state agency or authorized local government shall have the right of recovery against the contractor for any payments made on the contractor's behalf.
- (4) The breaking of any project into units or accomplishing any projects by phases is prohibited if it is done for the purpose of Code Rev/AI:eab

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  H-1173.1/21

avoiding the maximum dollar amount of a contract that may be let using the small works roster process or limited public works process.

- (5) A state agency or authorized local government may use the limited public works process in this section to solicit and award small works roster contracts to minibusinesses and microbusinesses as defined under RCW 39.26.010 that are registered contractors.
- (6) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.
- (a) "Equitably distribute opportunities" means that a state agency or authorized local government may not favor certain contractors on the appropriate small works roster over other contractors on the same roster who perform similar services.
- (b) "State agency" means the department of enterprise services, the state parks and recreation commission, the department of natural resources, the department of fish and wildlife, the department of transportation, any institution of higher education as defined under RCW 28B.10.016, and any other state agency delegated authority by the department of enterprise services to engage in construction, building, renovation, remodeling, alteration, improvement, or repair activities.
- **Sec. 9.** RCW 53.08.120 and 2018 c 149 s 2 are each amended to 22 read as follows:
  - (1) All material and work required by a port district not meeting the definition of public work in RCW 39.04.010(4) may be procured in the open market or by contract and all work ordered may be done by contract or day labor.
  - (2)(a) All such contracts for work meeting the definition of "public work" in RCW 39.04.010(4), ((the estimated cost of which exceeds three hundred thousand dollars,)) shall be awarded using a competitive bid process. The contract must be awarded at public bidding upon notice published in a newspaper of general circulation in the district at least thirteen days before the last date upon which bids will be received, calling for bids upon the work, plans and specifications for which shall then be on file in the office of the commission for public inspection. The same notice may call for bids on such work or material based upon plans and specifications submitted by the bidder. The competitive bidding requirements for purchases or public works may be waived pursuant to RCW 39.04.280 if

Code Rev/AI:eab 11 H-1173.1/21

an exemption contained within that section applies to the purchase or public work.

(b) For all contracts related to work meeting the definition of "public work" in RCW 39.04.010(4) ((that are estimated at three hundred thousand dollars or less)), a port district may let contracts using the small works roster process under RCW 39.04.155 in lieu of advertising for bids. Whenever possible, the managing official shall invite at least one proposal from a minority or woman-owned contractor who shall otherwise qualify under this section.

When awarding such a contract for work, when utilizing proposals from the small works roster, the managing official shall give weight to the contractor submitting the lowest and best proposal, and whenever it would not violate the public interest, such contracts shall be distributed equally among contractors, including minority contractors, on the small works roster.

- (c) Any port district may construct any public work, as defined in RCW 39.04.010, by contract without calling for bids whenever the estimated cost of the work or improvement, including cost of materials, supplies, and equipment, will not exceed the sum of forty thousand dollars. A "public works project" means a complete project. The restrictions in this subsection do not permit the division of the project into units of work or classes of work to avoid calling for bids. The port district managing official shall make his or her best effort to reach out to qualified contractors, including certified minority and woman-owned contractors.
- (3)(a) A port district may procure public works with a unit priced contract under this section or RCW 39.04.010(2) for the purpose of completing anticipated types of work based on hourly rates or unit pricing for one or more categories of work or trades.
- (b) For the purposes of this section, unit priced contract means a competitively bid contract in which public works are anticipated on a recurring basis to meet the business or operational needs of a port district, under which the contractor agrees to a fixed period indefinite quantity delivery of work, at a defined unit price, for each category of work.
- 36 (c) Unit priced contracts must be executed for an initial 37 contract term not to exceed three years, with the port district 38 having the option of extending or renewing the unit priced contract 39 for one additional year.

- 1 (d) Invitations for unit priced bids shall include, for purposes of the bid evaluation, estimated quantities of the anticipated types 2 of work or trades, and specify how the port district will issue or 3 release work assignments, work orders, or task authorizations 4 pursuant to a unit priced contract for projects, tasks, or other work 5 6 based on the hourly rates or unit prices bid by the contractor. Contracts must be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder as per RCW 7 39.04.010. Whenever possible, the port district must invite at least 8 one proposal from a minority or woman contractor who otherwise 9 qualifies under this section. 10
- 11 (e) Unit priced contractors shall pay prevailing wages for all work that would otherwise be subject to the requirements of chapter 12 39.12 RCW. Prevailing wages for all work performed pursuant to each 13 work order must be the prevailing wage rates in effect at the 14 beginning date for each contract year. Unit priced contracts shall 15 have prevailing wage rates updated annually. Intents and affidavits 16 for prevailing wages paid shall be submitted annually for all work 17 completed within the previous twelve-month period of the unit priced 18 19 contract.
- 20 **Sec. 10.** RCW 87.03.436 and 2010 c 201 s 2 are each amended to 21 read as follows:
- All contract projects, the estimated cost of which is less than

  ((three hundred thousand dollars)) the dollar threshold established

  in RCW 39.04.155, may be awarded using the small works roster process

  under RCW 39.04.155.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:
- 28 (1) RCW 39.19.100 (Enforcement by attorney general—Injunctive 29 relief) and 1987 c 328 s 12; and
- 30 (2) RCW 39.19.110 (Enforcement by attorney general—Investigative 31 powers) and 1987 c 328 s 13."
- 32 Correct the title.

 $\underline{\text{EFFECT:}}$  (1) Increases the estimated project cost threshold to \$500,000 for state agencies and authorized local governments to use the small works roster process to award contracts.

(2) Provides that the estimated project cost range for state agencies or authorized local governments to solicit bids from less

than the appropriate contractors on the appropriate small works roster is \$150,000 to \$500,000, rather than \$250,000 to \$350,000.

- (3) Increases the estimated project cost threshold to \$150,000 for state agencies and authorized local governments to use the limited public works process to award contracts.
- (4) Removes the \$300,000 estimated project cost threshold limitation for port districts to use the small works roster process.
- (5) Adds a qualified woman-owned contractor to the contractors a port district managing official must invite for each proposal, whenever possible.
- (6) Provides that the estimated project cost threshold for irrigation districts to use the small works roster process is the same estimated project cost threshold for state agencies or authorized local governments to use the small works roster process, rather than specifying a \$300,000 estimated project cost threshold for irrigation districts.

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