

SENATE, No. 2768

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED AUGUST 3, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Scutari, Pou and Turner

SYNOPSIS

Authorizes State Chief Diversity Officer to conduct disparity study concerning utilization of minority-owned and women-owned businesses in State procurement process.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/17/2020)

1 **AN ACT** authorizing the State Chief Diversity Officer to conduct a
2 disparity study concerning the utilization of minority-owned and
3 women-owned businesses in the State procurement process and
4 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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6 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
7 *of New Jersey:*

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9 1. a. The Chief Diversity Officer shall conduct a study
10 concerning the utilization of minority-owned and women-owned
11 businesses in the procurement of goods and services for State
12 agencies to determine whether disparities exist in the availability
13 and utilization of minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

14 b. Within one year after the date of enactment of this act, the
15 Chief Diversity Officer shall prepare and submit to the Governor
16 and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), to the
17 Legislature, a report containing the study's findings and
18 recommendations for legislative or other actions that can be taken
19 to promote opportunities for minority-owned and women-owned
20 business enterprises in the procurement of goods and services for
21 State agencies.

22 c. The Chief Diversity Officer may prepare and submit
23 additional reports as the officer deems appropriate, and each report,
24 with the exception of the first report prepared under this section,
25 shall additionally identify the extent to which the officer's prior
26 recommendations have been successfully implemented and the
27 apparent impact that the implementation of such recommended
28 changes have had on the procurement of goods and services for
29 State agencies in the preceding years.

30 d. For purposes of this section, "State agency" means any of
31 the principal departments in the Executive Branch of the State
32 government, and any division, board, bureau, office, commission or
33 other instrumentality within or created by such department, the
34 Legislature of the State and any office, board, bureau or
35 commission within or created by the Legislative Branch, and any
36 independent State authority, commission, instrumentality or agency
37 which is authorized by law to award public contracts.

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39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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44 This bill would require the State Chief Diversity Officer to
45 conduct a disparity study to determine whether disparities exist in
46 the availability and utilization of minority-owned and women-
47 owned businesses in the State procurement process.

1 The Chief Diversity Officer would have one year from the date
2 this bill is enacted to submit a report to the Governor and the
3 Legislature detailing the officer's findings and making
4 recommendations for legislative or other actions that can be taken
5 to promote opportunities for minority-owned and women-owned
6 business enterprises in the procurement of goods and services for
7 State agencies. After the disparity study is submitted, the Chief
8 Diversity Officer may, in his or her discretion, prepare and submit
9 additional reports identifying the extent to which previous
10 recommendations have been successfully implemented and any
11 apparent impact the implementation of such recommendations have
12 had on State procurement in the preceding years.

13 Studies which demonstrate the disparity between the availability
14 and utilization of minority-owned and women-owned businesses in
15 the State procurement process can help provide the basis for goal-
16 based procurement programs to alleviate historic discrimination
17 against minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises.