

By Senator Altman

16-01166-13

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to veteran preference in state  
3           purchasing; amending s. 295.187, F.S.; requiring state  
4           agencies to apply a specific percentage preference to  
5           bids, proposals, or replies from certified veteran  
6           business enterprises; providing an effective date.

7  
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10           Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 295.187, Florida  
11           Statutes, is amended to read:

12           295.187 Florida Veteran Business Enterprise Opportunity  
13           Act.—

14           (4) VENDOR PREFERENCE.—

15           (a) A state agency, when considering two or more bids,  
16           proposals, or replies for the procurement of commodities or  
17           contractual services, at least one of which is from a certified  
18           veteran business enterprise, ~~which are equal with respect to all~~  
19           ~~relevant considerations, including price, quality, and service,~~  
20           shall apply a 3-percent preference to the first \$500,000 of the  
21           bid, proposal, or reply ~~award such procurement or contract~~ to  
22           the certified veteran business enterprise.

23           (b) An eligible certified veteran business enterprise must  
24           submit a veteran-owned preference form and any required  
25           documentation to be given preference.

26           (c) ~~(b)~~ Notwithstanding s. 287.057(11), if a veteran  
27           business enterprise entitled to the vendor preference under this  
28           section and one or more businesses entitled to this preference  
29           or another vendor preference provided by law submit bids,

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30 proposals, or replies for procurement of commodities or  
31 contractual services which are equal with respect to all  
32 relevant considerations, including price, quality, and service,  
33 the state agency shall award the procurement or contract to the  
34 business having the smallest net worth.

35 (d)~~(e)~~ Political subdivisions of the state are encouraged  
36 to offer a similar consideration to businesses certified under  
37 this section.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.