

House Bill 2691

Sponsored by Representative GOMBERG (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes Task Force on Procuring Through Business Enterprises Owned or Operated by Disabled Veterans. Requires task force to study extent to which contracting agencies award public contracts to business enterprises that disabled veterans own or operate, to categorize types of public contracts that contracting agencies typically award to business enterprises that disabled veterans own or operate, to evaluate extent to which large procurements for goods and services could be feasibly broken into smaller procurements and to recommend incentives to induce contracting agencies to award public contracts to business enterprises that disabled veterans own or operate.

Sunsets task force on December 31, 2016.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to veteran-owned businesses; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Procuring Through Business Enterprises Owned or**
5 **Operated by Disabled Veterans is established, consisting of nine members appointed as fol-**
6 **lows:**

7 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint:**

8 (A) **Two members from among members of the Senate.**

9 (B) **One member who is a disabled veteran who owns or operates a business enterprise.**

10 (b) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint:**

11 (A) **Two members from among members of the House of Representatives.**

12 (B) **One member who is a disabled veteran who owns or operates a business enterprise.**

13 (c) **The Governor shall appoint three members as follows:**

14 (A) **One member who is a disabled veteran who owns or operates a business enterprise.**

15 (B) **One member who is an employee of the Oregon Department of Administrative Ser-**
16 **vices.**

17 (C) **One member who is an employee of the Department of Transportation.**

18 (2) **The task force shall:**

19 (a) **Study the extent to which contracting agencies award public contracts to business**
20 **enterprises that disabled veterans own or operate and describe and categorize the types of**
21 **public contracts that contracting agencies typically award to business enterprises that disa-**
22 **bled veterans own or operate;**

23 (b) **Evaluate the extent to which large procurements for goods and services, including**
24 **construction services, could be feasibly broken into smaller procurements that would be**
25 **within the capabilities and expertise of business enterprises that disabled veterans own or**
26 **operate;**

27 (c) **Investigate and recommend incentives that can help induce contracting agencies to**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 award public contracts to business enterprises that disabled veterans own or operate; and

2 (d) Report the results of the study the task force conducts under paragraph (a) of this
3 subsection in a manner that makes comprehensive data about public contracting awards to
4 business enterprises that disabled veterans own or operate visible, understandable and use-
5 able and that illuminates the particular impact that contracting agencies' public contracting
6 practices have on:

7 (A) Business enterprises that disabled veterans own or operate; and

8 (B) Specific disabled veterans or groups of disabled veterans who own or operate business
9 enterprises.

10 (3) The task force may:

11 (a) Consult and communicate with any person;

12 (b) Hold hearings and receive testimony and other evidence;

13 (c) Request data and information from contracting agencies; and

14 (d) Take other actions that are consistent with the task force's purpose.

15 (4) A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction
16 of business.

17 (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
18 members of the task force.

19 (6) The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.

20 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
21 ment to become immediately effective.

22 (8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson
23 or of a majority of the members of the task force.

24 (9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

25 (10) The task force shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and
26 may include recommendations for legislation, to an interim committee of the Legislative
27 Assembly related to public contracting as appropriate no later than September 15, 2016.

28 (11) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall provide staff support to the
29 task force.

30 (12) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
31 entitled to compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other
32 expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties in the manner and
33 amounts provided for in ORS 292.495. Claims for expenses incurred in performing functions
34 of the task force shall be paid out of funds appropriated to the Oregon Department of Ad-
35 ministrative Services for purposes of the task force.

36 (13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
37 the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating
38 to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force
39 consider necessary to perform their duties.

40 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2015 Act is repealed on December 31, 2016.

41 **SECTION 3.** This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
42 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect
43 on its passage.