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2024 -- H 7584

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, Solomon, Potter, Ackerman, Costantino, Diaz, Kennedy, Casey, and Fogarty Date Introduced: February 09, 2024

Referred To: House State Government & Elections

(Dept. of Administration)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 37-2-59 of the General Laws in Chapter 37-2 entitled "State
- 2 Purchases" is hereby amended to read as follows:

37-2-59. Professional services — Architectural, engineering, and consultant services

- 4 <u>— Committee.</u>
- 5

3

(a) It shall be the policy of this state to publicly announce requirements for architectural, engineering, and consultants services, which are reasonably estimated to exceed twenty thousand 6 7 dollars (\$20,000), and to negotiate contracts for such professional services on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications and at fair and reasonable prices. 8

9 (b) Except for architectural, engineering and consultant services which can be solicited and 10 awarded in accordance with the requirements for competitive sealed offers set forth in §§ 37-2-18 11 - 37-2-19 of this chapter, a selection committee shall select persons or firms to render such 12 professional services. For state agency contracts, the committee shall consist of the following 13 individuals: the purchasing agent, or his or her designee, as chairman; a representative of the user 14 agency; and a public member, appointed by the governor, subject to the advice and consent of the 15 senate, who shall represent the interests of the general public. The governor may appoint an alternate public member, subject to advice and consent of the senate, who shall represent the 16 17 interests of the general public who shall serve in the absence of the public member. The term of the 18 public member shall be concurrent with that of the governor. Three (3) Two (2) members, one 19 being the purchasing agent or his or her designee, shall constitute a quorum. A quorum must be

- 1 present to conduct business.
- 2 (c) The procurement of auditing and accounting services shall continue to be subject to the
- 3 provisions of §§ 22-13-6 and 35-7-13.
- 4 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC PROPERTY AND WORKS -- STATE PURCHASES

- 1 This act would reduce the required number of members present to constitute a quorum from
- 2 three (3) to two (2) members.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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