#### **SESSION 1989**

#### SENATE BILL 927

Short Title: Minority Business Enterprises.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Hunt of Durham, Ballance, Richardson, and Martin of Guilford.

Referred to: Small Business.

April 18, 1989

1		A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2	AN ACT TO	PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN STATE
3	PROCUREN	MENT CONTRACTS TO MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.
4	The General As	sembly of North Carolina enacts:
5	Section	on 1. Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new
6	Article to read:	
7		" <u>ARTICLE 3E.</u>
8		<u>''MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.</u>
9	" <u>§ 143-64.40. I</u>	Purpose.
10	The purpose	e of this Article is to provide maximum contracting opportunities to
11	minority busine	ss enterprises. To further this purpose:
12	<u>(1)</u>	Each Department, except the Department of Transportation as to
13		construction contracts, shall structure its procedures for procuring
14		supplies, services, maintenance, and construction to attempt to achieve
15		a minimum goal of ten percent (10%) of the total dollar value of these
16		procurements that are made directly or indirectly from certified
17		minority business enterprises;
18	<u>(2)</u>	The Department of Transportation shall structure its procurements for
19		procuring construction to attempt to achieve participation by certified
20		minority business enterprises, in the amount of a minimum goal of ten
21		percent (10%) of the dollar value of contracts in excess of one hundred
22		thousand dollars (\$100,000) on the prime or subcontract level; and
23	<u>(3)</u>	Each procurement agency shall structure its procedures for procuring
24		supplies, services, maintenance, and construction to encourage a fair

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1		participation in the State procurement process by certified minority	
2	business enterprises. " <u>§ 143-64.41. Definitions.</u>		
3			
4 5		<u>is Article, unless the context indicates otherwise:</u> <u>'Certification' means a determination by the Minority Business</u>	
5 6	<u>(1)</u>		
0 7		<u>Development agency in the Department of Commerce that a legal</u> entity is a minority business enterprise for purposes of this Article.	
8	(2)	<u>'Control' means the exercise of the power to manage and operate a</u>	
8 9	<u>(2)</u>	business enterprise.	
10	<u>(3)</u>	'Department' means the Department of Administration, The University	
11		of North Carolina, and the Department of Transportation.	
12	<u>(4)</u>	'Goal' means a voluntary percentage or quantitative objective.	
13	<u>(5)</u>	'Minority Business Enterprise' (MBE), means any legal entity, other	
14		than a joint venture, organized to engage in commercial transactions,	
15		that is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned and controlled by one or	
16		more minority persons, or a non-profit entity organized to promote the	
17		interests of the physically or mentally disabled.	
18	<u>(6)</u>	'Minority person' means a member of a socially or economically	
19		disadvantaged minority group, and includes Blacks, Hispanics,	
20		American Indians, Alaska natives, Asians, Pacific Islanders, women,	
21		and the physically or mentally disabled.	
22	<u>(7)</u>	'North Carolina Minority Business Development agency' means an	
23		agency in the Small Business Development Division of the	
24		Department of Commerce.	
25	<u>(8)</u>	<u>'Ownership' means:</u>	
26		<u>a.</u> For a sole proprietorship, that the sole proprietor is a minority	
27		person. If the ownership interest held by a minority person is	
28		subject to formal or informal restrictions such as options,	
29		security interests, or agreements held by a nonminority person	
30		or business entity, the options, security interests, or agreements	
31		held by the nonminority person or business entity may not	
32		significantly impair the minority person's ownership interest.	
33		b. For a partnership, that at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the	
34		partnership's assets or interests are owned by a minority person	
35		or minority persons. If the ownership interest held by a	
36		minority person is subject to formal or informal restrictions	
37		such as options, security interests, or agreements, held by a	
38		nonminority person or business entity, the options, security	
39		interests, or agreements held by the nonminority person or	
40		business entity may not significantly impair the minority	
41		person's ownership interest.	
42		c. For a corporation, that legal and equitable ownership of at least	
43		fifty-one percent (51%) of all classes of stock, bonds, or other	
44		securities issued by the corporation is owned by a minority	

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l	person or minority persons. If an ownership interest held by a
2	minority person is subject to formal or informal restrictions
	such as options, security interests, or agreements held by a
	nonminority person or business entity, the options, security
	interests, or agreements held by the nonminority person of
	business entity may not significantly impair the minority
	person's ownership interest.
	(9) 'Procurement agency' means any State agency that is authorized by
	law or regulations to procure or contract.
	(10) 'Solicitation notice' means public notice of a solicitation for bids
	offers, or expressions of interest which contains the nature of the
	procurement, relevant dates, the availability of solicitation documents
	if any, and other pertinent information. The notice shall consist of, but
	is not limited to:
	<u>a.</u> <u>Legal advertisement;</u>
	<ul> <li><u>b.</u> <u>Newspaper notice;</u></li> <li><u>c.</u> <u>Bid board notice; or</u></li> <li>d. Bid or proposal documents including the invitation for bids or</li> </ul>
	<u>c.</u> <u>Bid board notice; or</u>
	request for proposals. "§ 143-64.42. Scope of Article.
	<u>This Article applies to every procurement of supplies, services, maintenance, and</u>
	construction by a Department or procurement agency. Nothing in this Article is to be
	construction by a Department of procurement agency. Rothing in this Article is to be construed to relieve a Department from attempting to achieve its statutory cumulative
	contract goal for MBE participation.
	" <u>§ 143-64.43. Department and procurement agency responsibility.</u>
	(a) Each Department and procurement agency shall make its procurements in
	accordance with this Article. Each local board of education shall adopt procedures
	consistent with this Article before obtaining State funds for public school construction
	projects. When delegating procurement authority to procurement agencies and other
	departments, the Department of Administration shall condition the delegation or
	compliance with this Article.
	(b) Departments and procurement agencies shall, to the extent practicable
	develop uniform affidavits and reporting forms required by this Article.
	" <u>§ 143-64.44. MBE Liaison Officer.</u>
	The head of each Department and procurement agency shall designate an employee
	to be an MBE Liaison Officer in the administration of that agency's minority business
	enterprise program. The MBE Liaison Officer shall be a high-level employee reporting
	directly to a Secretary, Deputy Secretary, or head of a Department or procurement
	agency. The MBE Liaison Officer shall be responsible for coordinating agency
	outreach efforts to the minority business community, reviewing agency contracting
	procedures to assure compliance with this Article, assisting in the resolution of contracting issues, and for the submission of all required MBE program reports of
	information.
	" <u>§ 143-64.45. Central directory.</u>
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1 2 3 4 5	Administration Minority Busin shall specify th	shall pu less De ne type	<u>Minority Business Development agency and the Department of</u> <u>ablish a central directory of MBEs certified by the North Carolina</u> <u>velopment agency under G.S. 143-64.53</u> . The central directory <u>of supplies, services, maintenance, or construction primarily</u> <u>and the date of certification</u> . The central directory shall include:
6	(1)	-	ddress;
7	$\overline{(2)}$		e number; and
8	$\overline{(3)}$	Conta	ict person
9	of all certified	MBEs	; and the name of every business entity that has been denied
10	certification or	decerti	fied within the last two years. The directory shall be updated at
11	least quarterly,	and if f	easible, monthly.
12	" <u>§ 143-64.46.</u>	Outrea	<u>ch.</u>
13	Outreach e	fforts t	to minority business enterprises shall advise of contracting
14	opportunities w	ithin th	e State as follows:
15	<u>(1)</u>	Depar	tments and procurement agencies shall periodically conduct
16			ngs with minority business enterprises, as appropriate, to advise
17		-	curement opportunities within that Department or agency. These
18			ngs shall be coordinated with the North Carolina Minority
19			ess Development agency and other State agencies which make
20			ar procurements.
21	<u>(2)</u>	<u>The N</u>	Anority Business Development agency shall:
22		<u>a.</u>	Periodically convene seminars that include the minority
23			business community and appropriate personnel of the various
24			Departments and procurement agencies. These seminars shall
25			address topics of interest to prospective or current MBEs such
26			as State procurement procedures, certification, and anticipated
27			State procurements. The Minority Business Development
28			agency may provide technical assistance to MBEs relating to
29		1	the procurement process.
30		<u>b.</u>	Provide notice of all seminars and meetings undertaken under
31			this regulation to each minority business listed in the central
32			directory that may be reasonably expected to be interested in
33			the effort, as well as to those entities described in G.S. 143-
34			$\frac{64.47(3)}{1000}$
35	" <u>§ 143-64.47. I</u>		
36	_	_	procurement agency shall notify MBEs of procurement contract
37	opportunities as		
38	<u>(1)</u>		rity business enterprises listed in the central directory or
39 40		-	wise known to the Department or procurement agency as
40		1	ding the supplies, services, maintenance, or construction activity
41 42			procured, and that may be reasonably expected to be interested upcoming procurement as decided by the Department or
42 43			rement agency, shall be sent a copy of the solicitation notice as
43 44		-	of the solicitation process being employed for the business
77		part	or the somethation process being employed for the busiless

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1		community in general. The Department or procurement agency shall
2		solicit a sufficient number of MBEs as to reasonably assure one or
3		more MBE responses to the solicitation. A Department or
4 5		procurement agency shall have fulfilled the solicitation requirements
5 6		of this Article if it has used the central directory in the solicitation process. Each solicitation notice shall include the following statement:
7		'Minority business enterprises are encouraged to respond to this
8		solicitation notice.'
9	<u>(2)</u>	Within 30 days following the first day of the fiscal year, every
10	<u>(2)</u>	Department and procurement agency shall forward to the Minority
11		Business Development agency a complete listing of all known
12		regularly recurring procurement solicitations reasonably expected to be
13		of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or more. The list shall
14		include the subject of the contract, where the work is to be performed
15		or delivery made, the approximate solicitation date and the name and
16		telephone number of the procurement officer. The Minority Business
17		Development agency shall compile a master list containing the above
18		information, and distribute it to the Division of Small Business
19		Development of the Department of Commerce, appropriate minority
20		business associations, minority business assistance agencies, trade
21		organizations, and to each Department and procurement agency which
22		shall post the list on all bid boards for the remainder of the fiscal year.
23	<u>(3)</u>	Except for sole source, small, and emergency procurements, a copy of
24		the solicitation notice for each procurement shall be sent to the
25 26		Minority Business Development agency for distribution to the
26 27		appropriate minority business associations, minority business assistance agencies, and trade organizations identified by the Minority
27		Business Development agency. One copy of solicitation documents
28 29		for these procurements shall be made available, by the Department or
30		agency, free of charge, to these entities on request. The copy shall be
31		marked 'For Informational Purposes Only.'
32	"§ 143-64.48. ]	Procurement solicitations.
33		epartment or procurement agency shall assess the potential for MBE
34		spected under each of the methods described in subsection (b) of this
35	section before i	nitiating the procurement. The Department or procurement agency shall
36	utilize the ME	BE procurement method, or combination of methods decided most
37	appropriate for	the particular contract.
38	<u>(b)</u> <u>The</u>	following factors shall be used to anticipate the degree of MBE
39		b decide the MBE subcontract participation goal, when used, and the
40	· ·	ent method to be used:
41	<u>(1)</u>	The extent to which the direct solicitation, subcontracting opportunity
42		method, or combination of both methods, is determined most likely to
43		result in maximum MBE participation in the contract;

1 2		<u>(2)</u>	The number of MBEs listed in the central directory or otherwise identified for a particular supply, service, maintenance, or
3 4 5		<u>(3)</u>	<u>construction</u> ; <u>The geographical proximity, when relevant, of MBEs identified under</u> <u>subdivision (2) of this section to the location of the work to be</u>
6 7 8		<u>(4)</u>	<u>performed;</u> <u>The feasibility of subcontracting opportunities given the nature and</u> extent of the proposed contract; and
9 10		<u>(5)</u>	Specific statutory participation goals applicable to a Department's procurement.
11	(a)	Tha I	<b>x</b>
	(c)		Department of Administration may employ the following procurement
12	methods:		Direct a list time IC 1 as MDE and a site of the sector of
13		<u>(1)</u>	Direct solicitation. If known MBEs can provide the entire contract,
14			then the MBEs may be solicited directly as part of the solicitation
15			process being employed for the business community in general.
16		<u>(2)</u>	MBE subcontract method. Notwithstanding whether a direct
17			solicitation is made under subdivision (1) of this subsection, all
18			Department of Transportation construction contracts in excess of one
19			hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) and all other construction
20			contracts in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) shall contain an
21			MBE subcontract participation goal, expressed as a percentage of the
22			dollar value of the contract that should be attempted to be
23			subcontracted to MBEs. A Department or procurement agency may
24			establish an MBE subcontract goal for a particular construction
25			contract of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or less, or any supply,
26			maintenance, or service contract. A bidder or offeror shall submit with
27			its bid or proposal a completed MBE utilization affidavit on a form
28			provided by the appropriate Department or procurement agency. The
29			names of prime contractors requesting or purchasing solicitation
30			documents for construction contracts shall be made available on
31			request to any certified MBEs whose specialty suggests an interest in
32			subcontracting. Each prime contractor given solicitation documents as
33			part of a procurement under the MBE subcontract method, and who
34			does not have an updated central directory shall be given, upon
35			request, one copy of the directory or the pertinent portions for
36			purposes of soliciting subcontract quotations, bids, or offers from
37			certified MBEs.
38		<u>(3)</u>	Combination procurement method. A combination of direct
39			solicitation and the MBE subcontract methods, pursuant to
40			subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, which may be used when
41			the Department or procurement agency decides this method will be
42			most likely to achieve the greatest degree of MBE participation.
43		<u>(4)</u>	Pre-bid and pre-proposal conferences. When pre-bid or pre-proposal
44			conferences are held, the Department or procurement agency shall

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1	ex	plain the MBE subcontracting goal, if applicable, the MBE
2		ovisions of the solicitation, the documentation required and its
3		ationship to the bidder responsiveness and responsibility or offeror
4		ceptability determinations which will be made in connection with
5		e evaluation process.
6	<u>(5)</u> Fe	deral requirements. To the extent required by federal assistance
7		struments applicable to contracts let by the State under a federal
8	ass	sistance program, those MBEs meeting requirements and criteria of
9	the	e federal government shall be utilized.
10	" <u>§ 143-64.49. Cont</u>	tract award.
11	(a) The Depa	artment of Administration may require all determinations under this
12	section and G.S. 14	3-64.50 to be made before execution of a contract, or approval by
13	the Department, or	<u>poth.</u>
14		ct involving subcontracts shall be subject to the Department or
15		v concluding that the apparent low bidder or successful offeror meets
16		participation provisions contained in the solicitation. The apparent
17		ssful offeror shall, within 10 working days from the date of award of
18		ification that it is the apparent low bidder or successful offeror,
19		, submit any required documentation. Nothing in this regulation is
20		e the award of a contract conditionally upon receipt of any required
21	documentation.	
22		r an uncertified minority business is identified for contract award,
23		procurement agency shall forward the affidavit of the minority
24		artment of Administration and the Minority Business Development
25		tion consistent with G.S. 143-64.53. A contract may be awarded
26	•	pendency of certification. The certification entity shall notify the
27		curement agency promptly of its disposition. In the event of an
28	-	tion, the Department or procurement agency shall include that fact
29 30	MBE until it is certi	<u>l report and may not, in the future, treat that business entity as an</u>
30 31		artment or procurement agency determines that the apparent low
32		l offeror has not complied with the MBE subcontract participation
33		as not obtained a waiver in accordance with G.S. 143-64.50, or if the
34	•	ails to submit the documentation required by the solicitation, the
35		; upon review by an assistant attorney general and approval of the
36	*	cy head having jurisdiction over the contract, may reject the bid or
37		award of the contract. The reasons for this action shall be specified
38		ed or delivered to the bidder or offeror.
39	" <u>§ 143-64.50.</u> Wai	
40		y reason, the apparent low bidder or successful offeror is unable to
41		t goal for MBE participation, the bidder or offeror may request, in
42		n to the goal with justification including the following.

42 writing, an exception to the goal with justification, including the following:

1	(1)	A detailed statement of the offerts made to calent neutions of the weath
1	<u>(1)</u>	A detailed statement of the efforts made to select portions of the work
2		proposed to be performed by MBEs in order to increase the likelihood
3	( <b>2</b> )	of achieving the stated goal:
4	<u>(2)</u>	A detailed statement of the efforts made to contact and negotiate with
5		<u>MBEs including:</u>
6		<u>a.</u> <u>The names, addresses, dates, and telephone numbers of MBEs</u>
7 8		<u>contacted, and</u> <u>A description of the information provided to MDEs recording</u>
8 9		b. <u>A description of the information provided to MBEs regarding</u>
9 10		the plans, specifications, and anticipated time schedule for
10	( <b>2</b> )	portions of the work to be performed;
11	<u>(3)</u>	As to each MBE that placed a subcontract quotation or offer which the
12		apparent low bidder or successful offeror considers not to be
13 14	(A)	<u>acceptable, a detailed statement of the reasons for this conclusion; and</u>
14	<u>(4)</u>	<u>A list of minority subcontractors found to be unavailable. This list</u> should be accompanied by an MBE unavailability certification signed
15 16		
17		by the MBE, or a statement from the apparent low bidder or successful offeror that the MBE refused to give the written certification.
17	(b) A wa	aiver of an MBE contract goal may be granted only upon a reasonable
18 19		by the bidder or offeror that MBE participation was unable to be
20		s unable to be obtained at a reasonable price, and a determination by the
20 21		the agency head's designee that the public interest is served by a waiver.
21		ermination under this section, the agency head or agency head's designee
22	-	engineering estimates, catalogue prices, general market availability, and
23 24	-	MBEs in the area work is to be performed, other bids or offers and
24 25	•	s or offers substantiating significant variances between MBE and non-
23 26		articipation, and their impact on the overall cost of the contract to the
20 27		other relevant factor.
28	•	epartment or agency head may waive any of the provisions of G.S. 143-
20 29		143-64.49 for a sole source or emergency procurement in which the
30	nublic interest of	cannot reasonably accommodate use of those procedures.
31		n a waiver is granted, except waivers under subsection (c) of this section,
32		waiver determination and the reasons for the determination shall be kept
33		iaison Officer with another copy forwarded to the Minority Business
34	Development a	
35		Amendment for unforeseen circumstances.
36		the before execution of a contract, the apparent low bidder or successful
37		ines that an MBE has become or will become unavailable, then the
38		bidder or successful offeror shall immediately notify the procurement
39	**	desired change in the schedule for participation shall be approved in
40	•	e procurement officer and shall indicate the contractor's efforts to
41	· · · · ·	her MBE subcontractor to perform the work. Desired changes occurring
42		of contract execution may occur only upon written approval by the
43		agency head and subsequently by contract amendment.
44	"§ 143-64.52. (	
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1	(a) To assure compliance with MBE subcontract requirements, a Department or
2	procurement agency may require a contractor to furnish:
3	(1) <u>Copies of purchase orders, subcontracts, cancelled checks, and other</u>
4	records that may indicate the number, names, dollar value of MBE
5	subcontracts, dates, and schedule time for performance of work by an
6	MBE subcontractor; and
7	(2) Entry for an on-site verification inspection.
8	(b) Upon determining a contractor's noncompliance, the Department or
9	procurement agency shall notify the contractor in writing of its findings and shall
10	specify what corrective actions are required. The contractor shall be required to initiate
11	the corrective actions within 10 days and complete them within the time specified by the
12	Department or procurement agency.
12	(c) If a Department or procurement agency determines that substantial non-
14	compliance with MBE contract provisions exists and that the prime contractor refuses or
15	fails to take the corrective action required by the Department or procurement agency,
16	then the following sanctions may be invoked:
17	(1) <u>Termination of the contract;</u>
18	(2) Referral to the office of the Attorney General for appropriate action; or
19	(3) Initiation of any other specific remedy identified by contract.
20	"§ 143-64.53. Certification.
20 21	(a) <u>Contractors seeking to be certified by and do business with the Department of</u>
22	<u>Transportation shall use certification procedures developed by that Department. The</u>
22	Department of Transportation shall also develop recertification and decertification
23	procedures.
2 <del>4</del> 25	(b) <u>Contractors seeking to be certified for procurements solicited by other</u>
26	Departments or procurement agencies shall file an application with the Minority
27	Business Development agency of North Carolina.
28	(c) <u>The Minority Business Development agency may request the following</u>
29	information to assist in any certification, recertification, and decertification
30	determination.
31	(1) Copies of articles of incorporation, bylaws, minutes, shareholder
32	agreements, stock certificates, stock transfer ledgers, any additional
33	profit-sharing agreements or buyout rights, or in the case of a
34	partnership, the partnership agreement;
35	(2) Current financial statements, business licenses, the prior two years'
36	federal tax returns, cancelled checks, resumes of principal parties, and
37	any relevant personal and third-party agreements, such as rental and
38	management agreements;
39	(3) Any other information that the certifying entity determines is
40	necessary.
41	Failure to furnish the requested information within a reasonable time as specified in
42	writing may result in a denial of certification or recertification, or a determination to
43	decertify.

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1 2	(d) <u>Certification as an MBE by the Minority Business Development agency shall</u> be made by disclosure affidavit and any other supporting documentation that may be
3	required.
4	(e) All certifications by the Minority Business Development agency shall be
5	valid until terminated by the agency after which MBEs previously certified are required
6	to re-submit disclosure affidavits and other required supporting documentation. All
7	MBEs certified before the effective date of this Article may be recertified as required by
8	the Minority Business Development agency.
9	(f) The Minority Business Development agency may decertify a business, which
10	it finds no longer is a minority business enterprise. A decertified business entity may
11	reapply for certification 12 months from the date of the decertification. A new affidavit
12	and any supporting documentation required shall be submitted as if the business entity
13	were requesting initial certification.
14	"§ 143-64.54. Reporting requirements.
15	(a) Each Department and procurement agency shall make a report annually
16	within 90 days following the close of the fiscal year to the Minority Business
17	Development agency:
18	(1) The total number and value of its procurements from State certified
19	MBEs as prime contractors, and separately as subcontractors;
20	(2) The percentage which purchases and contracts from MBEs represent
21	of its total number and value of its procurements from business
22	enterprises for the fiscal year just ended;
23	(3) The number of waivers granted pursuant to G.S. 143-64.50; and
24	(4) An evaluation by the Department of the success of its MBE program.
25	The Minority Business Development agency shall prepare an annual report
26	summarizing MBE participation throughout the State for submission by the end of each
27	calendar year to the General Assembly and to each Department and procurement
28	agency."
29	Sec. 2. G.S. 143-48 reads as rewritten:
30	"§ 143-48. State policy; cooperation in promoting the use of small, minority,
31	physically handicapped and women contractors; purpose.
32	It is the policy of this State to encourage and promote the use of small, minority,
33	physically handicapped and women contractors in State purchasing of goods and
34	services. All State agencies, institutions and political subdivisions shall cooperate with
35	the Department of Administration and all other State agencies, institutions and political
36	subdivisions in efforts to encourage the use of small, minority, physically handicapped
37	and women contractors in achieving the purpose of this Article, which is to provide for
38	the effective and economical acquisition, management and disposition of goods and
39 40	services by and through the Department of Administration. <u>Accordingly, all contracts</u>
40	entered into for the purchase of goods and services pursuant to this Article shall be subject to the provision of Article 3E of this Chapter "
41 42	subject to the provision of Article 3E of this Chapter." Sec. 3. G.S. 143-135.5 reads as rewritten:
42 43	"§ 143-135.5. State policy; cooperation in promoting the use of small, minority,
43 44	physically handicapped and women contractors; purpose.
77	physically handleapped and women contractors, purpose.

It is the policy of this State to encourage and promote the use of small, minority, 1 2 physically handicapped and women contractors in State construction projects. All State 3 agencies, institutions and political subdivisions shall cooperate with the Department of Administration and all other State agencies, institutions and political subdivisions in 4 5 efforts to encourage and promote the use of small, minority, physically handicapped 6 and women contractors in achieving the purpose of this Article, which is the effective 7 and economical construction of public buildings. Accordingly, all contracts entered into 8 for the purchase of goods and services pursuant to this Article shall be subject to the 9 provision of Article 3E of this Chapter."

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Sec. 4. G.S. 136-28.4 reads as rewritten:

# 11 "§ 136-28.4. State policy; cooperation in promoting the use of small, minority, 12 physically handicapped and women contractors.

13 It is the policy of this State to encourage and promote the use of small, minority, 14 physically handicapped and women contractors in the construction, alteration and 15 maintenance of State roads, streets, highways, and bridges and in the procurement of 16 materials for such projects. All State agencies, institutions and political subdivisions 17 shall cooperate with the Department of Transportation and all other State agencies, 18 institutions and political subdivisions in efforts to encourage and promote the use of small, minority, physically handicapped and women contractors in such State 19 20 construction, alteration, maintenance and procurement. Accordingly, all contracts 21 entered into for construction, alteration, maintenance, and procurement in excess of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) pursuant to this Article shall be subject to the 22 23 provisions of Article 3E of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes."

24

Sec. 5. This act shall become effective January 1, 1990.

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