

**SENATE, No. 4231**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**218th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 14, 2019

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator VIN GOPAL**

**District 11 (Monmouth)**

**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes price preference program on State contracts for service-disabled veteran-owned businesses.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/19/2019)**

1 AN ACT concerning preferences for service-disabled veteran-owned  
2 businesses and supplementing P.L.1954, c.84 (C.52:34-6 et seq.).  
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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*  
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7 1. In awarding a contract which is paid with State funds and  
8 publicly advertised for bids, a State agency shall give a preference  
9 of up to 15 percent of the amount of the contract to a qualified  
10 disabled veterans' business. If the qualified disabled veterans'  
11 business otherwise meets the requirements of the contract  
12 solicitation and with the preference is the lowest bidder, a State  
13 agency shall enter into a procurement contract with the qualified  
14 disabled veterans' business. If two or more qualified disabled  
15 veterans' businesses are the lowest bidders on a contract, the  
16 qualified disabled veterans' business with the lowest bid shall be  
17 awarded the contract.

18 As used in this act, "qualified disabled veterans' business"  
19 means a business which has its principal place of business in the  
20 State, is independently owned and operated, and at least 51 percent  
21 of which is owned and controlled by persons who are disabled  
22 veterans, or a business which has its principal place of business in  
23 this State and has been officially verified by the State of New Jersey  
24 Department of the Treasury or the United States Department of  
25 Veterans Affairs as a service-disabled veteran-owned business for  
26 the purposes of department contracts pursuant to State and federal  
27 law.  
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29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.  
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32 STATEMENT  
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34 This bill establishes a price preference program for service-  
35 disabled veteran-owned businesses competing for State contracts.

36 Under current law, certain purchases or contracts payable out of  
37 State funds are publicly advertised and competitively bid on by  
38 businesses. The State then awards the contract to the lowest bidder.

39 This bill would establish a price preference of up to 15 percent of  
40 the amount of the contract to a qualified disabled veterans'  
41 business. If the disabled veterans' business meets the requirements  
42 of the contract solicitation and is the lowest bidder due to the  
43 preference program, a State agency will enter into a procurement  
44 contract with the disabled veterans' business. If two or more  
45 qualified disabled veterans' businesses bid on a contract utilizing  
46 the preference program, the disabled veterans' business with the  
47 lowest bid will be awarded the contract.

**S4231 GOPAL, CORRADO**

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1        This bill defines “qualified disabled veterans’ business” to mean  
2        an independently owned and operated business that has its principal  
3        place of business in the State, and at least 51 percent of which is  
4        owned and controlled by persons who are disabled veterans.  
5        “Qualified disabled veterans’ business” also means a business that  
6        has its principal place of business in this State and has been  
7        officially verified by the New Jersey Department of the Treasury or  
8        the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as a service-  
9        disabled veteran-owned business for the purposes of department  
10       contracts pursuant to State and federal law.