

ASSEMBLY, No. 724

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Assemblymen R. SMITH and RUSSO

1 AN ACT concerning the establishment of an automated bid access and
2 purchasing information system, supplementing Title 52 of the
3 Revised Statutes, and making an appropriation.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

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8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. It is crucial for the State and its political subdivisions to
10 purchase goods and services in the most efficient, effective and
11 economical manner possible.

12 b. The state of Oregon has significantly improved the way it
13 procures goods and services by establishing the Vendor Information
14 Program (VIP).

15 c. VIP has saved Oregon over \$13 million in the program's first
16 year of operation.

17 d. In addition to saving money by increasing competition and
18 reducing staff and paperwork, the Oregon program has improved
19 bidding opportunities for minority and small businesses by enhancing
20 equal access to bidding information.

21 e. New Jersey should adopt a program similar to the Oregon
22 program.

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24 2. The State Treasurer shall establish in the Department of the
25 Treasury an automated bid access and purchasing information system,
26 to be known as the Vendor Information Program, to allow vendors to
27 access information related to bidding on contracts awarded by the
28 State and its political subdivisions, including school districts and
29 authorities. The system shall be designed to enable vendors, by means
30 of a personal computer and modem, to access information such as
31 requests for proposals, past bids, current contracts, and any other
32 information which the State Treasurer determines to be related to
33 bidding on a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week basis.

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35 3. The State Treasurer may contract with the state of Oregon for

1 the purchase and installation of a Vendor Information Program and for
2 the training of staff to implement the program.

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4 4. The State Treasurer shall promulgate rules and regulations
5 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410
6 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), in order to effectuate the purposes of this act.

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8 5. There is appropriated \$400,000 from the General Fund to the
9 Department of the Treasury to effectuate the purposes of this act.

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11 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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16 This bill directs the State Treasurer to establish an automated bid
17 access and purchasing information system, to be known as the Vendor
18 Information Program (VIP), to allow vendors to access information
19 related to bidding on contracts awarded by the State and its political
20 subdivisions, including school districts and authorities. The system
21 shall be designed to enable vendors, by means of a personal computer
22 and modem, to access on a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week basis such
23 information as requests for proposals, past bids, current contracts, and
24 any other information which the State Treasurer determines to be
25 related to bidding. The bill allows New Jersey to purchase a VIP
26 system from Oregon, which has implemented such a system in
27 connection with its own procedures for the procurement of goods and
28 services.

29 The bill appropriates \$400,000 to the Department of the Treasury
30 to effectuate the purposes of this act.

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35 Establishes the Vendor Information Program; appropriates \$400,000.