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H.336

Introduced by Representatives Coffey of Guilford, Mrowicki of Putney,  
Bluemle of Burlington, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Brumsted of  
Shelburne, Burke of Brattleboro, Burrows of West Windsor,  
Christie of Hartford, Cina of Burlington, Colston of Winooski,  
Cordes of Lincoln, Dolan of Waitsfield, Goldman of  
Rockingham, Grad of Moretown, James of Manchester, Ode of  
Burlington, Stevens of Waterbury, Surprenant of Barnard,  
Toleno of Brattleboro, Townsend of South Burlington, White of  
Hartford, Wood of Waterbury, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Commerce and trade; economic development

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to promote  
economic opportunity for BIPOC-owned businesses in this State.

An act relating to promoting economic opportunity for BIPOC-owned  
businesses

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 \* \* \* Increasing BIPOC Business Start-Ups and Business Development;

3 Access to Capital; Technical Assistance \* \* \*

4 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 2 is added to read:

5 § 2. BLACK, INDIGENOUS, AND PERSONS OF COLOR (BIPOC)

6 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

7 The Department of Economic Development shall design and implement the

8 Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC) Business Development

9 Program, the purposes of which are:

10 (1) to provide BIPOC-owned businesses with technical assistance,

11 including financial literacy, digital literacy, and marketing;

12 (2) to promote State and federal contract bid opportunities to BIPOC-

13 owned businesses; and

14 (3) to provide training to business technical assistance providers to

15 reduce bias in service delivery.

16 \* \* \* Effective Date \* \* \*

17 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.