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H.473

Introduced by Representatives Pugh of South Burlington, Christie of Hartford,
Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Head of South Burlington,
Rachelson of Burlington, Sullivan of Burlington, and Townsend
of South Burlington

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Government Operations; State procurement; socially responsible
businesses

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
Secretary of Administration to include considerations for socially responsible
businesses in the State procurement process.

An act relating to socially responsible business considerations in the State
procurement process

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

Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. § 347 is added to read:

§ 347. STATE CONTRACTING; SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE

BUSINESSES

(a) The Secretary of Administration shall include in Administrative
Bulletin 3.5 a policy direction applicable to State procurement contracts that

1 ensures the favorable consideration of vendors that promote socially
2 responsible business practices. The Secretary may set a minimum financial
3 threshold for application of this policy, which shall include consideration of
4 best practices such as:

5 (1) offering benefits that provide for the health and welfare of
6 employees and their families, including health insurance, a livable wage,
7 dependent care flexible spending accounts, flexible work schedules, and paid
8 family, parental, medical, and sick leave;

9 (2) providing programs to support retirement planning and saving; and

10 (3) offering accessible training and educational opportunities.

11 (b) As part of the competitive bidding process, the State shall give
12 favorable consideration to a bidder that adheres to the best practices set forth in
13 subsection (a) of this section.

14 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on passage.