

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

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SENATE DRS75121-LM-47 (02/14)

Short Title: Public Contracts/Local Business Preference. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Soucek (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT PROVIDING THAT COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES MAY, WHEN  
3 CONTRACTING FOR CONSTRUCTION OR REPAIR WORK OR FOR THE  
4 PURCHASE OF APPARATUS, SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, OR EQUIPMENT  
5 INVOLVING THE EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY, GIVE PREFERENCE TO  
6 LOCAL BIDDERS WHEN CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS ARE MET.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 SECTION 1. Article 8 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes is amended by  
9 adding a new section to read as follows:

10 "**§ 143-131.1. Counties and municipalities; preference given to local bidders.**

11 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, when contracting for  
12 construction or repair work or for the purchase of apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment  
13 involving the expenditure of public money, counties and municipalities may give preference to  
14 the lowest responsible, responsive local bidder if both of the following conditions are met: (i)  
15 the bid of the lowest responsible, responsive local bidder is no greater than five percent (5%) or  
16 ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), whichever is less, of the bid of the lowest responsible,  
17 responsive non-local bidder; and (ii) the lowest responsible, responsive local bidder matches  
18 the bid of the lowest responsible, responsive non-local bidder.

19 (b) For purposes of this subsection, the following definitions apply:

20 (1) Local bidder. – A bidder that has paid unemployment taxes or income taxes  
21 in this State and whose principal place of business is located within the  
22 boundaries of the county or municipality giving the preference.

23 (2) Non-local bidder. – A bidder that is not a local bidder as defined in  
24 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

25 (3) Principal place of business. – The principal place from which the trade or  
26 business of the bidder is directed or managed."

27 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 2013, and applies to bids received  
28 on or after that date.

