

Dr. Solomon C. Stinson, Chair

SUBJECT: VENDOR PREFERENCE FOR CERTIFIED SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: EVALUATE AND REDESIGN INTERNAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS

This item is submitted for consideration by the Board to request the initiation of rulemaking proceedings to provide, under certain conditions, a vendor selection preference in favor of certified service-disabled veteran business enterprises.

On October 20, 2004, the President of the United States signed "Executive Order 13360" to increase federal contracting opportunities for service-disabled veteran businesses. The Executive Order required, among other things, that agencies develop a strategy to increase contracting and subcontracting with small businesses owned and controlled by service disabled veterans. Subsequently, and in a similar manner, the Florida legislature enacted the "Florida Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Opportunity Act" ("Act"), § 295.187, Florida Statutes, effective on November 11, 2008, to grant a selection preference regarding state contracts in favor of certified service-disabled veteran businesses. This Act requires state agencies, and encourages political subdivisions, to grant a preference to certified service-disabled veteran business enterprises, as defined under Florida Statutes.

The designated preference would apply when an agency is considering two or more bids, proposals or replies for the procurement of commodities or contractual services, and at least one of which is from a certified service-disabled veteran business enterprise, and whose proposal is equal with respect to price, quality and service. If more than one service-disabled veteran business enterprise is entitled to the vendor preference, then the award shall be granted to the business having the smallest net worth. The state, through its Department of Management Services, will develop a certification procedure for the purpose of implementing the Act.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

DR. SOLOMON C. STINSON: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to initiate rulemaking proceedings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to codify the relevant provisions of the "Florida Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Opportunity Act", § 295.187, Florida Statutes.