By Senator Grall

29-00509-24 2024594

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public works projects; amending s. 255.0992, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "public works project"; deleting a prohibited activity of the state or a political subdivision that contracts for a public works project; authorizing political subdivisions that are the sole source of funding for a public works project to prevent certain contractors and subcontractors and material suppliers or carriers from participating in the bidding process for that project based on the geographic location of the company headquarters or offices or the residences of their employees; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsections (2) and (3) of section 255.0992, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

255.0992 Public works projects; prohibited governmental actions.—

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (b) "Public works project" means an activity that is paid for with any <u>local or</u> state-appropriated funds and that consists of the construction, maintenance, repair, renovation, remodeling, or improvement of a building, road, street, sewer, storm drain, water system, site development, irrigation system, reclamation project, gas or electrical distribution system, gas or electrical substation, or other facility, project, or portion

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thereof owned in whole or in part by any political subdivision.

(2) Except as required by federal or state law, the state or any political subdivision that contracts for a public works project may not take the following actions:

- (a) Prevent a certified, licensed, or registered contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier, from participating in the bidding process based on the geographic location of the company headquarters or offices of the contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier submitting a bid on a public works project or the residences of employees of such contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier.
- (b) Require that a contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier engaged in a public works project:
- 1. Pay employees a predetermined amount of wages or prescribe any wage rate;
- 2. Provide employees a specified type, amount, or rate of employee benefits;
 - 3. Control, limit, or expand staffing; or
- 4. Recruit, train, or hire employees from a designated, restricted, or single source.
- (b) (c) Prohibit any contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier able to perform such work that is qualified, licensed, or certified as required by state or local law to perform such work from receiving information about public works opportunities or from submitting a bid on the public works project. This paragraph does not apply to vendors listed under ss. 287.133 and 287.134.
 - (3) If the political subdivision is the sole source of

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funding for a public works project, the political subdivision may prevent a certified, licensed, or registered contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier from participating in the bidding process for that project based on the geographic location of the company headquarters or offices of the contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier or the residences of the employees of such contractor, subcontractor, or material supplier or carrier.

- (4) This section does not apply to the following:
- (a) Contracts executed under chapter 337.
- (b) A use authorized by s. 212.055(1) which is approved by a majority vote of the electorate of the county or by a charter amendment approved by a majority vote of the electorate of the county.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.