

Amend Floor Amendment No. 64 to CSHB 7 by adding an additional SECTION as follows:

SECTION _____. Section 489.213, Government Code, as added by S.B. 275 of the 78th Regular Session is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (e) and adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(b) In determining eligible products and ~~[small]~~ businesses, the bank shall give special preference to products or businesses in the areas of semiconductors, nanotechnology, biotechnology, and biomedicine that have the greatest likelihood of commercial success, job creation, and job retention in this state. The bank shall give further preference to providing financing to projects or businesses that are:

(1) grantees under the small business innovation research program established under 15 U.S.C. Section 638, as amended;

(2) companies formed in this state to commercialize research funded at least in part with state funds;

(3) applicants that have acquired other sources of financing;

(4) companies formed in this state and receiving assistance from designated state small business development centers; or

(5) applicants who are residents of this state doing business in this state and performing financed activities predominantly in this state.

(e) The board may appoint an advisory committee of experts in the areas of semiconductors, nanotechnology, biotechnology, and biomedicine to review projects and businesses seeking financing from the bank.

(h) Any business in this state may be eligible for funding through the small business incubator fund if it is determined to have a substantial likelihood of developing and expanding the opportunities for small businesses in the semiconductor, nanotech, biotech, or biomedicine industries in Texas.