

AN ACT

relating to preferences in state purchasing.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 2155.444, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2155.444. PREFERENCE TO TEXAS AND UNITED STATES PRODUCTS AND TEXAS SERVICES.

SECTION 2. Section 2155.444, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(c) In this section: [7]

(1) "Agricultural [~~agricultural~~] products" includes textiles and other similar products.

(2) "Texas bidder" means a business:

(A) incorporated in this state;

(B) that has its principal place of business in this state; or

(C) that has an established physical presence in this state.

(e) The commission and all state agencies procuring services shall give preference to services offered by a Texas bidder if:

(1) the services meet state requirements regarding the service to be performed and expected quality; and

1 (2) the cost of the service does not exceed the cost of
2 other similar services of similar expected quality that are not
3 offered by a Texas bidder.

4 SECTION 3. Section 2155.445, Government Code, is amended by
5 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

6 (d) In addition to the products covered by the definition
7 adopted by rule under this section, in this section "recycled
8 product" includes recycled steel products. The preference for
9 recycled steel products under this section applies also to products
10 purchased in connection with projects described by Section
11 2166.003.

12 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 845 was passed by the House on April 10, 2003, by a non-record vote; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 845 on May 23, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 845 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 21, 2003, by a viva-voce vote.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor