87R10846 CJC-F

By:  Cain H.B. No. 1865

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to encouraging economic development through preferences for residents of this state and certain goods or services manufactured in this state and offered for sale by Texas bidders.

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

SECTION 1.  This Act may be cited as the Texas Jobs Priority Act.

SECTION 2.  Subchapter H, Chapter 418, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 418.196 to read as follows:

Sec. 418.196.  PURCHASE OF CERTAIN PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR DISASTER PURPOSES. (a) A state agency or an officer of this state or a political subdivision of this state authorized to deploy resources under this chapter in response to a disaster shall, when purchasing personal protective equipment, give preference to personal protective equipment manufactured in this state and offered for sale by a bidder in this state.

(b)  Subsection (a) does not apply to a purchase unless the personal protective equipment manufactured in this state and offered for sale by a bidder in this state is the same or substantially similar in price and quality as personal protective equipment manufactured in another state or offered for sale by a bidder in another state.

(c)  If personal protective equipment manufactured in this state is offered for sale by more than one bidder in this state, the state agency, officer, or political subdivision described by Subsection (a) may consider the aggregate economic effect to the state when determining which bid to accept.

SECTION 3.  Section 271.9051, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e)  Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a municipality may, when making a purchase of property or services described by Subsection (b), enter into a contract with a bidder whose principal place of business is located in this state regardless of whether that bidder is the lowest bidder if the governing body of the municipality determines the bidder offers the municipality the best combination of contract price and additional economic development opportunities for the municipality.

SECTION 4.  Section 2301.151, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c)  The board shall in exercising a power provided to it under this chapter give preference and priority to residents of this state, including laborers and vendors, and to manufacturers located in this state except when it is not reasonably possible to do so without added expense, substantial inconvenience, or sacrifice in department efficiency.

SECTION 5.  As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, an agency, an official, or a political subdivision of this state affected by this Act shall adopt rules and procedures as necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 6.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.