

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 91

**FISCAL
NOTE**

BY SENATOR YOST

[Introduced January 13, 2016;

Referred to the Committee on Government

Organization; and then to the Committee on Finance.]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
 2 designated §5A-3-61, relating to requiring materials, supplies, equipment and other items
 3 purchased by the state and its agencies to be made in the United States; providing
 4 exceptions; and defining terms.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new
 2 section, designated §5A-3-61, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3. PURCHASING DIVISION.

§5A-3-61. Purchase of goods and equipment manufactured in the United States; definitions; exceptions.

1 (a) In any instance that a contract for construction or a purchase of supplies, material,
 2 equipment and any other articles or things by the director or by a state department is required
 3 under the provisions of this article to be made upon competitive bids, all bids shall specify and
 4 require that goods and equipment comprising a substantial portion of the total bid amount shall
 5 be American made and no bid shall be approved that does not comply with this section.

6 (b) As used in this section:

7 (1) "Goods and equipment" means supplies, material, equipment and any other articles or
 8 things used by or furnished to a department, agency or institution of state government pursuant
 9 to a contract or purchase agreement under this article, but does not mean a vendor's equipment
 10 that does not remain with or otherwise become the property of the state.

11 (2) "Substantial portion of the total bid amount" means an item of goods or equipment of
 12 which the cost is equivalent to or greater than \$25,000 or five percent, whichever is less, of the
 13 total price of the bid.

14 (3) "American-made" means that the item is manufactured in the United States or
 15 assembled in the United States from component parts or materials, regardless of origin.

16 (4) “United States” and “United States of America” includes all territory, continental or
17 insular, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

18 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of subsection (a) of this section to the contrary, the
19 director of the Purchasing Division may, in writing, authorize the use of foreign goods and
20 equipment if:

21 (1) The specified goods or equipment are necessary for the protection and safety of the
22 public or property, and no comparable American-made products are available;

23 (2) The director of the Purchasing Division determines that specified goods and equipment
24 are not produced in the United States in sufficient quantity or otherwise are not reasonably
25 available to meet contract requirements; or

26 (3) The Director of the Purchasing Division determines that an item of American-made
27 goods or equipment specified by the state agency exceed the cost of comparable foreign-made
28 goods or equipment by more than ten percent of the cost of that item.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require materials, supplies, equipment and other items purchased by the state and its agencies to be made in the United States. The bill provides exceptions. The bill also defines terms.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.