



SR0259

LRB101 11735 MST 58385 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Disadvantaged Business Entities (DBEs), Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs), and Women Business Enterprises (WBEs), are an important and growing part of the Illinois economy; and

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WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly and the Governor recognize the importance of providing opportunity for all in Illinois to contribute to the commerce of our State, regardless of race, religion, culture, or sexual identity; and

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WHEREAS, DBEs, MBEs, and WBEs are often unable to compete with larger established firms because of capacity issues, lack of access, and available capital resources; and

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WHEREAS, Mentor-protege programs, such as those with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois Capital Development Board, and the Illinois Tollway Authority, have helped some DBEs, MBEs, and WBEs to become pre-qualified to bid on contracts with the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Diversity Task Force on Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs), and Women Business Enterprises

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1 (WBEs) is created to identify major issues, remove impediments,  
2 and create a fair opportunity for DBEs, MBEs, and WBEs to do  
3 business with the State of Illinois, specifically the Illinois  
4 Department of Transportation (IDOT), the Illinois Capital  
5 Development Board (CDB), and the Illinois Tollway Authority;  
6 and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be comprised of 15  
8 members appointed by the Illinois Senate President, including  
9 the appointment of the chair and vice chair(s), and shall  
10 include members from firms representing DBEs, MBEs, WBEs, and  
11 prime contractors; the members shall serve without  
12 compensation; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall meet over the course of  
14 2019-2020 and submit a final report to the Senate by July 1,  
15 2020, which shall include short-term and long-term solutions,  
16 recommendations, and suggestions for future legislation to  
17 increase capacity and participation of minority firms pursuing  
18 business opportunities in Illinois; the report should also  
19 include recommendations to address challenges facing prime  
20 contractors and State agencies dealing with minority firms;  
21 upon the filing of its final report, the Task Force is  
22 dissolved; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Department of Labor Shall provide

1 administrative support; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
3 delivered to the Senate President and the Director of Labor.