

# Veterans' Affairs Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-5736

AN ACT CONCERNING PRICE PREFERENCES FOR VETERAN-OWNED

**Title:** BUSINESSES IN STATE CONTRACTING.

**Vote Date:** 3/18/2021

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable

**PH Date:** 2/11/2021

**File No.:** 233

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Veterans' Affairs Committee  
Rep. Stephen G. Harding, 107th Dist.  
Rep. Michael DiGiovancarlo, 74th Dist.  
Rep. Ronald A. Napoli, 73rd Dist.  
Rep. Dorinda Borer, 115th Dist.

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

Currently, all open market orders and contracts are awarded to the lowest responsible qualified bidder. This legislation would add "veteran-owned businesses" to the list of entities who can receive a price preference of up to ten per cent. By doing so, veterans are provided an additional opportunity to gain financial stability and reintegrate successfully into civilian life.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None Expressed.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

[Tom Flower, Chairman, Connecticut American Legion Legislative Affairs.](#) : Mr. Flower submitted written testimony in support of HB-5736.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

[Kevin Dillon, Executive Director, Connecticut Airport Authority.](#) : Mr. Dillion submitted written testimony concerning federal restrictions imposed by the Federal Aviation Administration as it

relates to this bill. He stated that a federal requirement restricts the establishing of price preference or set asides for any contractors as the federal government's main concern is cost effectiveness. This legislation could put them into conflict with their federal requirements. Mr. Dillion suggested Substitute Language in order to exempt the Connecticut Airport Authority and other entities that are not able to offer price preference.

**Reported by: Edward Jacome, Assistant Clerk      Date: 03/26/21**