



2023-2024 General Assembly

# HOUSE BILL 259: 2023 Appropriations Act, Sec. 20.4: Expand Minority Business and Historically Underutilized Business Definitions

**Committee:**  
**Introduced by:**  
**Analysis of:** Sec. 20.4 of S.L. 2023-134

**Date:** December 18, 2023  
**Prepared by:** Howard Marsilio  
Staff Attorney

**OVERVIEW:** Section 20.4 of S.L. 2023-134 expands the definitions of the terms "minority business" and "historically underutilized business" for public contracting purposes.

*This section became effective October 3, 2023, and applies to contracts awarded on or after that date.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Article 8 of Chapter 143 outlines the laws that relate to various types of public contracts, which include a verifiable minority business and historically underutilized business participation goal in public building projects.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Section 20.4 of S.L. 2023-134 expands the definitions of the terms "minority business" and "historically underutilized business" to include employee stock ownership plan companies in which at least 51% of the stock is owned by persons in eligible groups.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This section became effective October 3, 2023, and applies to contracts awarded on or after that date.

Jeffrey Hudson  
Director



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