Chapter 344

(House Bill 243)

AN ACT concerning

Procurement - Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprises - Participation Goal

FOR the purpose of altering a certain participation goal for certain veteran-owned business enterprises for certain procurement contracts; repealing obsolete language; and generally relating to procurement participation by veteran-owned small business enterprises.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – State Finance and Procurement Section 14–602 Annotated Code of Maryland (2009 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – State Finance and Procurement

14-602.

(a) [Beginning July 1, 2012, a] A unit shall structure procurement procedures, consistent with the purposes of this subtitle, to try to achieve an overall minimum of [0.5%] $\frac{5\%}{1\%}$ 1% of the unit's total dollar value of procurement contracts to be made directly or indirectly with veteran–owned small business enterprises.

(b) Solicitation documents shall establish the expected degree of veteran–owned small business enterprise participation based, in part, on:

(1) the potential subcontract opportunities available in the procurement contract; and

(2) the availability of veteran–owned small business enterprises to respond competitively to the potential subcontract opportunities.

(c) The provisions of this subtitle do not apply to a unit's procurement procedures to the extent that any unit determines that those provisions are in conflict with an applicable federal program.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015.

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Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2015.