



ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM TO ASSIST VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES IN QUALIFYING FOR VETERANS PREFERENCES FOR LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES

WHEREAS, 2014 is the “Year of the Veteran” in Nevada, during which time it is my goal to make our state the most veteran- and military-friendly state in the nation;

WHEREAS, in order to accomplish this goal, my administration has worked through the Green Zone Initiative to develop various opportunities to increase veteran employment through interagency cooperation, policy development, and program development;

WHEREAS, the Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapters 333 and 338, provide for preferences for businesses owned by service-connected disabled veterans seeking to do business with the Purchasing Division of the Department of Administration and the State Public Works Division of the Department of Administration, respectively;

WHEREAS, there currently exists similar opportunities for verified service-connected disabled veteran-owned businesses and veteran-owned businesses seeking to do business with agencies of the federal government;

WHEREAS, the Procurement Outreach Program of the Governor’s Office of Economic Development has staff trained to assist veterans in navigating the certification and contracting processes for veteran-owned and service-connected disabled veteran-owned businesses;

WHEREAS, the Nevada Department of Veterans Services, through a generous grant provided by the Nevada Military Support Alliance, has also developed the Green Zone Employers Program to certify veteran-friendly employers throughout the state;

WHEREAS, Nevada is leading the nation in economic development and job growth, and should do everything possible to ensure that economic opportunities are also available to its service members, veterans, and their families either through the promulgation of state policies, programs, employment or entrepreneurial endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides that, “The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada.”

NOW, THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Nevada, I hereby direct and order:

1. The Procurement Outreach Program of the Governor’s Office of Economic Development shall:
 - a. Develop a quarterly training program to assist Nevada service members, veterans, and their families in becoming verified service-connected disabled veteran-owned businesses or veteran-owned businesses in order to qualify for preferences for state and federal contracts;

- b. Provide training focusing on how-to apply for verification as a Nevada veteran-owned or service-connected disabled veteran-owned business, eligibility qualifications, renewal requirements, contract set-asides, and how-to successfully seek contracts with the Purchasing Division and the State Public Works Division, as well as with various federal agencies;
 - c. Provide modules on veterans bid preferences for contracts and services through the State of Nevada, as outlined in NRS 333 and NRS 338;
 - d. Provide Green Zone Employer program training for certification by the Nevada Department of Veterans Services for those participating in the training; and
 - e. Provide, on a quarterly basis, an updated report to the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs on the number of verified service-connected disabled veteran-owned businesses and veteran-owned businesses in Nevada.
2. The Nevada Department of Veterans Services shall:
- a. Provide the Legislative Commission with its annual report as required by NRS 417.105. In doing so, the agency shall provide information on the state of veterans preference programs administered by the Purchasing Division and the State Public Works Division and also provide recommendations for the "continuation, modification, promotion or expansion of the preferences for local businesses owned by veterans with service-connected disabilities which are described in NRS 333.3366 and 338.13844"; and
 - b. Upon submitting the report to the Legislative Commission, the Director of the Nevada Department of Veterans Services shall also submit any recommendations to the Interagency Council on Veterans Affairs for consideration and possible inclusion as an addendum to its employment-focused report in advance of the 78th Legislative Session.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 30th day of July, in the year two thousand fourteen.



Governor of the State of Nevada

By the Governor:

Secretary of State

Deputy Secretary of State