

H.702

Introduced by Representatives Tracy of Burlington, Bohi of Hartford, Botzow of Pownal, Brooks of Montpelier, Chen of Mendon, Connell of Warren, Cross of Winooski, Donovan of Burlington, Edwards of Brattleboro, Gervais of Enosburg, Hummel of Underhill, Jewett of Ripton, Klein of East Montpelier, Larson of Burlington, Maier of Middlebury, Martin of Springfield, McLaughlin of Royalton, Milkey of Brattleboro, Nease of Johnson, Nuovo of Middlebury, Partridge of Windham, Pillsbury of Brattleboro, Pugh of South Burlington, Shand of Weathersfield, Sharpe of Bristol, Smith of Morristown, Sweaney of Windsor, Symington of Jericho and Trombley of Grand Isle

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: State contracts; services rendered in foreign country

Statement of purpose: This bill would prohibit any unit of state government from awarding a contract for services to be rendered by persons from a site that is located outside the United States.

AN ACT RELATING TO STATE CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES TO BE  
RENDERED IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

The General Assembly finds that the state regularly awards contracts for services that are vital to Vermont residents, and that a disturbing trend is developing nationally in which contractors and subcontractors under service contracts awarded by state governments employ persons in foreign countries to perform these vital services. The General Assembly further finds that persons performing these service contracts in foreign

countries are generally paid wages that are significantly below the minimum wage in this state, and that this trend of awarding service contracts to be performed outside the United States is threatening to the jobs and livelihood of Vermonters and all Americans.

Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 345 is added to read:

§ 345. CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES PERFORMED OUTSIDE THE  
UNITED STATES; PROHIBITION; EXCEPTIONS

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, an agency of state government may not award a procurement contract for services to be rendered by a contractor or subcontractor from a site that is outside the United States.

(b) An agency may award a procurement contract for services to be rendered by a contractor or subcontractor from a site that is outside the United States:

(1) for services related to a proceeding or event that occurs outside the United States; or

(2) with the approval of a majority of the members of the emergency board.