



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

**WHEREAS:** The State of Georgia is committed to helping small businesses expand and create jobs; and

**WHEREAS:** Small businesses are important to the growth and success of Georgia's economy and are responsible for employing nearly half of Georgia's workforce; and

**WHEREAS:** Georgia's agencies are currently required to offer information about procurement opportunities with the state; and

**WHEREAS:** The process to enter into procurement contracts with the state can be difficult for small businesses to navigate; and

**WHEREAS:** The Department of Administrative Services ("DOAS") provides various opportunities for small businesses to learn and participate in the state procurement process such as the Small Business Procurement Readiness Workshop series, the Small Business Symposium series, and the Minority Business Enterprise certification process; and

**WHEREAS:** DOAS has the statutory duty to administer the state procurement process pursuant to Code Section 50-5-51, *et seq.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY**

**ORDERED:** That DOAS shall create the position of Small Business and Supplier Diversity Manager and create a position to facilitate communications and engagement with minority-owned small businesses.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That DOAS shall schedule and hold regular meetings with representatives from small business community stakeholders and small business development partners, including chambers of commerce in order to help

better understand the challenges faced by small businesses and identify obstacles to participation in the state procurement process.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** Through these meetings, DOAS shall increase active outreach efforts to the small business community with a particular focus on the minority-owned, women-owned, and veteran-owned business community - these efforts shall include, but are not limited to, supplier education and training.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That DOAS shall coordinate with the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Director of Small Business Outreach and other small business development partners, such as the University of Georgia's Small Business Development Center Multicultural Business Division, to hold these regular meetings and increase active outreach efforts to the small business community.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** By October 31, 2022, DOAS shall issue a report which provides specific recommendations to implement which will assist in making the state procurement process more easily accessible to small businesses.

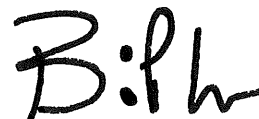
**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That if one or more of the provisions contained in this Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Order, but, in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Order.

**IT IS FURTHER**

**ORDERED:** That this Order shall be effective upon signature.

This 13<sup>TH</sup> day of July 2022.



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GOVERNOR