**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NOT QUALIFY A CONTRACTOR OR CONTRACTING FIRM TO PARTICIPATE IN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS AS A PRIME CONTRACTOR OR A SUBCONTRACTOR IF THE FIRM IS OWNED BY A TRUST THAT BENEFITS A PERSON OR FIRM WHO HAS BEEN DISQUALIFIED FOR BIDDING ON DEPARTMENT CONTRACTS OR A DISQUALIFIED PERSON’S FAMILY, OR IF THE DISQUALIFIED PERSON OR FIRM PROVIDES FINANCIAL SUPPORT OR LOANS TO THE CONTRACTOR OR CONTRACTING FIRM.

Whereas, it is estimated that the State of South Carolina needs significant additional dollars annually to make necessary improvements to our system of roads, and bridges; and

Whereas, the General Assembly is debating whether to increase the state’s gasoline tax to accomplish this goal which would require our motorists to make an increased contribution to support transportation needs of this state; and

Whereas, it is imperative that firms that contract with our Department of Transportation exemplify the highest integrity throughout the bidding process, as well as throughout the process of fulfilling the terms of any contract awarded to a successful bidding firm; and

Whereas, it also is imperative that any contractor or contracting firm must be disqualified from participating in a Department of Transportation contract if the firm is owned, in whole or in part, by a trust that benefits a person or firm who has been disqualified for bidding on department contracts or a disqualified person’s family; and

Whereas, furthermore, it is imperative that any contractor or contracting firm must be disqualified from participating in a Department of Transportation contract if the disqualified person or firm provides financial support or loans to the contractor or contracting firm. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the Department of Transportation not qualify a contractor or contracting firm to participate in Department of Transportation contracts as a prime contractor or a subcontractor if the firm is owned by a trust that benefits a person or firm who has been disqualified for bidding on department contracts or a disqualified person’s family, or if the disqualified person or firm provides financial support or loans to the contractor or contracting firm.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Transportation.

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