

1 state officials or by family members of state
2 officials.

3 (a) Unless the context clearly requires a different meaning,
4 for the purposes of this section, the following terms are defined
5 as follows:

6 (1) "Family member of a state official" means a person who is
7 the spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle,
8 aunt, nephew or niece of any state official, or who is the spouse
9 of any such person so related to a state official.

10 (2) "State office" means:

11 (A) The Office of the Governor;

12 (B) The Office of the Secretary of State;

13 (C) The Office of the State Treasurer;

14 (E) The Office of the State Auditor;

15 (F) The Office of the Attorney General;

16 (G) The Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture;

17 (H) The office of any member of the State Board of Education;

18 (I) The office of any member of the West Virginia Senate;

19 (J) The office of any member of the West Virginia House of
20 Delegates;

21 (K) The office of a justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals of
22 West Virginia; and

23 (L) The office of an judge of any state circuit court.

24 (3) "State official" means any person who is elected to or

1 appointed by the Governor to a state office.

2 (4) "Vendor" means any sole-proprietorship, corporation,
3 partnership, association, limited liability company or any other
4 form or business association which is a for-profit entity.

5 (b) No contract or renewal of any contract over \$2 million in
6 value may be awarded by the state to any vendor or prospective
7 vendor when the vendor or prospective vendor is related to any
8 state official by blood, marriage, ownership or a contract through
9 which the state official or the family member of a state official
10 has a relationship of ownership or other interest with the vendor
11 and where the state official or family member of a state official
12 has an ownership interest of greater than five percent in the
13 vendor.

14 (c) All bids, contract proposals or contracts with the state
15 submitted or approved under the provisions of this code shall
16 include an affidavit that the vendor, prospective vendor or a
17 related party to the vendor or prospective vendor is not in
18 violation of this section.

19 (d) Upon request, the Ethics Commission may review bids,
20 contract proposals or contracts with the state submitted or
21 approved under the provisions of this code and may approve
22 exceptions to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is prohibit awarding or

renewing state contracts of over \$2 million to vendors owned in whole or part by state officials or by family members of state officials. The bill also requires an affidavit of compliance with the prohibition to accompany bids, contract proposals and contracts with the state, and provides for Ethics Commission review and approval of exceptions to this prohibition.

This section is new; therefore, it has been completely underscored.