

**As Reported by the Senate Government Oversight and Reform  
Committee**

**131st General Assembly**

**Regular Session  
2015-2016**

**S. B. No. 152**

**Senator Uecker**

**Cosponsors: Senators Seitz, Jones, Hottinger, Jordan, Lehner, Coley**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 9.49 and to repeal sections 1  
153.013 and 5525.26 of the Revised Code to 2  
prohibit a public authority from requiring a 3  
contractor to employ a certain percentage of 4  
individuals from the geographic area of the 5  
public authority for the construction or 6  
professional design of a public improvement. 7

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 9.49 of the Revised Code be 8  
enacted to read as follows: 9

**Sec. 9.49.** (A) As used in this section: 10

(1) "Construction manager" and "construction manager at 11  
risk" have the same meanings as in section 9.33 of the Revised 12  
Code. 13

(2) "Contractor" means a person who undertakes to 14  
construct, alter, erect, improve, repair, demolish, remove, dig, 15  
drill, or provide professional design services for any part of a 16  
structure or public improvement. "Contractor" may include any 17

public or business association and any person or entity that 18  
actively participates in whole or in part in the actual 19  
construction of a public improvement or provision of 20  
professional design services by itself, through the use of 21  
employees, or through the use of a construction manager, 22  
construction manager at risk, professional design firm, design- 23  
build firm, general contractor, or subcontractor. 24

(3) "Design-build firm" has the same meaning as in section 25  
153.65 of the Revised Code. 26

(4) "Laborer" means a person who does any of the following 27  
in furtherance of a public improvement: 28

(a) Performs manual labor or labor of a particular 29  
occupation, trade, or craft; 30

(b) Uses tools or machinery of a particular occupation, 31  
trade, or craft; 32

(c) Otherwise performs physical work in a particular 33  
occupation, trade, or craft. 34

(5) "Professional design services" and "professional 35  
design firm" have the same meanings as in section 153.65 of the 36  
Revised Code. 37

(6) "Public authority" includes any of the following: 38

(a) The state; 39

(b) A county, township, municipal corporation, or any 40  
other political subdivision of the state; 41

(c) Any public agency, authority, board, commission, 42  
instrumentality, or special district of the state, a county, 43  
township, municipal corporation, or other political subdivision 44

of the state; 45

(d) Any officer or agent of one of the entities listed in 46  
divisions (A) (6) (a) to (c) of this section who is authorized to 47  
enter into a contract for the construction of a public 48  
improvement or to construct a public improvement by the direct 49  
employment of labor. 50

(7) "Public improvement" means any of the following: 51

(a) A road, bridge, highway, street, or tunnel; 52

(b) A waste water treatment system or water supply system; 53

(c) A solid waste disposal facility or a storm water and 54  
sanitary collection, storage, and treatment facility; 55

(d) Any structure or work constructed by a public 56  
authority or by another person on behalf of a public authority 57  
pursuant to a contract with the public authority. 58

(B) (1) No public authority shall require a contractor, as 59  
part of a prequalification process or for the construction of a 60  
specific public improvement or the provision of professional 61  
design services for that public improvement, to employ as 62  
laborers a certain number or percentage of individuals who 63  
reside within the defined geographic area or service area of the 64  
public authority. 65

(2) No public authority shall provide a bid award bonus or 66  
preference to a contractor as an incentive to employ as laborers 67  
a certain number or percentage of individuals who reside within 68  
the defined geographic area or service area of the public 69  
authority. 70

**Section 2.** That sections 153.013 and 5525.26 of the 71  
Revised Code are hereby repealed. 72

**Section 3.** In enacting section 9.49 of the Revised Code in 73  
this act, the General Assembly hereby declares its intent to 74  
recognize both of the following: 75

(A) The inalienable and fundamental right of an individual 76  
to choose where to live pursuant to Section 1 of Article I, Ohio 77  
Constitution; 78

(B) Section 34 of Article II, Ohio Constitution, specifies 79  
that laws may be passed providing for the comfort, health, 80  
safety, and general welfare of all employees, and that no other 81  
provision of the Ohio Constitution impairs or limits this power, 82  
including Section 3 of Article XVIII, Ohio Constitution. 83

**Section 4.** The General Assembly finds, in enacting section 84  
9.49 of the Revised Code in this act, that it is a matter of 85  
statewide concern to generally allow the employees working on 86  
Ohio's public improvement projects to choose where to live, and 87  
that it is necessary in order to provide for the comfort, 88  
health, safety, and general welfare of those employees to 89  
generally prohibit public authorities from requiring 90  
contractors, as a condition of accepting contracts for public 91  
improvement projects, to employ a certain number or percentage 92  
of individuals who reside in any specific area of the state. 93