



North Carolina Contractors Benefit from Governor's Order

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North Carolina businesses will now have a competitive advantage when bidding on state contracts for the purchase of goods. In an effort to protect local business and grow jobs, Gov. Beverly Perdue signed Executive Order No. 50 giving North Carolina-based businesses the opportunity to match prices of out-of-state bidders to secure state contracts. If a qualified North Carolina business is not the lowest bidder, but comes within five percent or \$10,000 of the lowest bid of an out-of-state company, that business will be able to match the lowest bidder's price and thereby be awarded the contract. The Order authorized the Secretary of Administration to develop the price-matching procedures for North Carolina bidders on state contracts for the purchase of goods. The new procedures are to be implemented no later than March 1, 2010.

Williams Mullen will continue to review the implications of this order and can serve as a resource to any clients who have questions or concerns about its effect.

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