

CHAPTER 242

AN ACT permitting partnerships and joint ventures to bid on public works and prevailing wage contracts in certain cases and amending P.L.1999, c.238.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 4 of P.L.1999, c.238 (C.34:11-56.51) is amended to read as follows:

C.34:11-56.51 Registration required for contractors, subcontractors.

4. a. No contractor shall bid on any contract for public work as defined in section 2 of P.L.1963, c.150 (C.34:11-56.26), or for which payment of the prevailing wage is required by any other provision of law, unless the contractor is registered pursuant to this act. No contractor shall list a subcontractor in a bid proposal for the contract unless the subcontractor is registered pursuant to P.L.1999, c.238 (C.34:11-56.48 et seq.) at the time the bid is made. No contractor or subcontractor, including a subcontractor not listed in the bid proposal, shall engage in the performance of any public work subject to the contract, unless the contractor or subcontractor is registered pursuant to that act.

b. A partnership or joint venture shall be permitted to bid on heavy infrastructure projects, if each party to the partnership or joint venture is independently registered in compliance with this section.

(1) Prior to being awarded a contract, a partnership or joint venture shall register with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development to obtain a Public Works Contractor Registration certificate and designate a primary contract manager to oversee contract administration and compliance.

(2) If any party to the partnership or joint venture fails to perform or comply with a contract or a portion thereof, all parties to the partnership or joint venture shall be held jointly and severally liable. Such failure to perform or comply may result in penalties to the partnership or joint venture, including cancellation of the contract.

c. As used in this section, “heavy infrastructure project” means a public works project that involves the planning, design, construction, or maintenance of essential facilities and systems, including, but not limited to, roads, bridges, tunnels, railways, airports, seaports, transit systems, water and wastewater treatment facilities, stormwater systems, utilities, and environmental remediation efforts.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 12, 2026.