

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2024-437

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Members Arias and Amaro representing the JSEB Special Committee

Date of Introduction: May 28, 2024

Committee(s) of Reference: R, F

Date of Analysis: May 30, 2024

Type of Action: Ordinance Code amendment

Bill Summary: The bill amends Ordinance Code Chapter 126 – Procurement Code – with regard to the Jacksonville Small and Emerging Business (JSEB) program to delete Sec. 126.608(a) that required the City to create and maintain a bond enhancement program for JSEBs. It amends Sec. 126.614 to change the time frame for reviewing the certification status of JSEBs from every 24 months to every 36 months and amends Sec. 126.620 to require JSEBs to apply for recertification every 36 months rather than every 24 months. The section is also amended to extend the program graduation timeframe for participating JSEBs from 9 years to 15 years and creates a designation of “JSEB Prime Member” for such qualifying firms or individuals after 9 years of participation in the program with the strong encouragement that they serve as mentors to other participants in the JSEB program.

Background Information: The JSEB Special Committee concurred with the recommendation of the JSEB Administrator that the bond enhancement program was a redundancy and its removal would free up funds for other purposes, and that increasing the review and recertification process from every 2 years to every 3 years would make the program less burdensome on the participants. The extension of the graduation threshold from 9 to 15 years and the creation of the JSEB Prime Member designation was intended to retain the institutional knowledge of long-time participants and increase their value as mentors to newer participants in the program.

Policy Impact Area: Jacksonville Small and Emerging Business program

Fiscal Impact: Potential cost savings from elimination of the bond enhancement program and the extension of review and recertification process by a year.

Analyst: Clements