

1 **Purchasing from People with Disabilities Program**
2 **Approval of Products Offered by Community Rehabilitation Programs**
3 **Discussion Paper**
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5 **Background**

6 The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) administers the Purchasing from People with
7 Disabilities (PPD) program. Texas Human Resources Code Chapter 122.007 requires TWC to
8 determine the fair market price of all products manufactured or provided by individuals with
9 disabilities and offered for sale to state agencies and political subdivisions by community
10 rehabilitation programs (CRPs) participating in the PPD program. The PPD program, with
11 assistance from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (Comptroller), reviews the cost
12 analysis for new and revised product pricing submitted by the Central Nonprofit Agency on
13 behalf of CRPs participating in the program. TWC Chapter 806 Purchases of Products and
14 Services from People with Disabilities rule §806.52, Determination of Fair Market Value,
15 requires the Comptroller to provide the PPD program with the necessary information and
16 resources to comply with Chapter 122.007 to determine fair market price of products sold to state
17 agencies or political subdivisions.
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19 **Issue**

20 Three CRPs presented five new products to be purchased through the PPD program. For each
21 CRP, individuals with disabilities are paid above minimum wage and prices are competitive.
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- 23 • Houston Lighthouse for the Blind presented one product: a disinfectant.
- 24 • Camino Real Community Services presented one product: a mesh-back office chair.
- 25 • West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind presented three products: one type of disposable
26 face mask and two types of neck gaiters.
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28 **Decision Point**

29 Staff seeks direction on approving five new products presented by the three CRPs.