(G) "SPECIAL FUND" MEANS THE SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL LONG-TERM FINANCING FUND.

[(e)] (H) "Working capital" means items of supplies, materials, labor, or equipment [that become part of the product or service to be delivered under a government contract].

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(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) The inability of socially or economically disadvantaged [businessmen] PERSONS to obtain working capital is a major limitation on their opportunity to win and perform government contracts;

(2) In many instances on record, a socially or economically disadvantaged [businessman] PERSON has been awarded a government contract, but has lacked the working capital to post a performance bond, buy supplies needed to begin the work, or pay employees and, therefore, has been unable to accept the contract;

[(3) An excessive number of high risk, problem, or uncollectible loans is not in the interest of a financial institution, and, therefore, financial institutions generally are reluctant to lend money to socially or economically disadvantaged businessmen with insufficient records of performance; and]

[(4)] (3) Certain persons are unable to obtain government contracts for reasons other than the cost to the government or the ability of the person to perform the contract work competently[.];

(4) IN MANY INSTANCES ON RECORD, SOCIALLY OR ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED PERSONS LACK ADEQUATE CAPITAL TO SUSTAIN AND EXPAND THEIR BUSINESSES AND TO HIRE AND TRAIN EMPLOYEES;

(5) HIGH RISK, PROBLEM, OR UNCOLLECTIBLE LOANS ARE NOT IN THE INTEREST OF A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION, AND THEREFORE, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS GENERALLY ARE RELUCTANT TO LEND MONEY TO SOCIALLY OR ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED PERSONS WITH INSUFFICIENT RECORDS OF PERFORMANCE;

(6) THE INABILITY OF BUSINESSES OWNED BY SOCIALLY OR ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED PERSONS TO OBTAIN LONG-TERM FINANCING IS A MAJOR LIMITATION UPON THEIR OPPORTUNITY TO SURVIVE AND EXPAND; AND

(7) IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC WELFARE AND PURPOSE TO PROMOTE THE VIABILITY AND EXPANSION OF BUSINESSES OWNED BY ECONOMICALLY OR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED