SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

MOTION NO. 23-099

APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL MARKETING SERVICES WITH VENTURES, FOR SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 public health emergency began on January 27, 2020, negatively impacting business across the nation; and

WHEREAS, target industries were identified as being disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. These target industries include micro-businesses and small businesses in sectors such as tourism, travel, and hospitality. In Snohomish County, based on data from November 2021, the list of impacted industries includes: Manufacturing, in particular Aerospace Products and Parts Manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County has secured Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery (CLFR) grant funds under the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA); and

WHEREAS, the County, through the Executive's Office Economic Development Division, advertised Request for Proposal (RFP) 22-019SB for the purpose of selecting a professional marketing services consultant to design and implement a small business innovation assistance program to support the establishment of new businesses and the recovery of existing small businesses. which were negatively impacted during the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Ventures was selected by the review committee from three (3) competing firms to perform the work based on their proposal, previous comparable experience, and competitive fee schedule;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON MOTION, the Snohomish County Council approves the 2023-2024 Small Business Innovation Assistance (SBIA) at a contracted amount of \$2,000,000.

PASSED this 7th day of March, 2023.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

<u>Jared Mead</u> Council Chair

ATTEST:

Deputy Clerk of the Council