

(2) "FREDERICK COUNTY FIRM" MEANS A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT HAS ITS PRINCIPAL OFFICE IN FREDERICK COUNTY.

(3) "NONRESIDENT FIRM" MEANS A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT HAS ITS PRINCIPAL OFFICE OUT OF FREDERICK COUNTY.

(B) (1) WHEN AWARDING A CONTRACT BY COMPETITIVE BIDDING, IF THE STATE OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION IN WHICH A NONRESIDENT FIRM IS LOCATED GIVES AN ADVANTAGE TO ITS RESIDENT BUSINESSES, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF FREDERICK COUNTY MAY GIVE AN IDENTICAL ADVANTAGE TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BID FROM A FREDERICK COUNTY FIRM OVER THAT OF THE NONRESIDENT FIRM.

(2) AN ADVANTAGE MAY INCLUDE:

(I) A PERCENTAGE PREFERENCE;

(II) AN EMPLOYEE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT; OR

(III) ANY OTHER PROVISION THAT FAVORS A NONRESIDENT FIRM OVER A FREDERICK COUNTY FIRM.

(C) THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1995.

Approved May 25, 1995.

CHAPTER 614

(Senate Bill 691)

AN ACT concerning

Howard County Ethics Bill

Ho. Co. 5-95

FOR the purpose of requiring an applicant in certain zoning proceedings in Howard County to file a certain affidavit when an application has been filed; requiring an applicant and party of record to disclose the name of the recipient, the amount, and the date of certain contributions, including certain contributions by certain family members; exempting certain entities from the application of this Act *or certain provisions of this Act*; requiring certain persons to keep certain records; specifying that certain contributions be disclosed within a certain time period; establishing certain procedures for the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this Act; requiring the Howard County Ethics Commission to carry out certain functions; providing that certain affidavits and disclosures be in the form established by the County Solicitor and approved by the County Council; defining