

CHAPTER 76.

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact with amendments Section 1 of Article 78A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "Public Works—Board of," so as to authorize a private contract for stationery, record and blank books, account books, and materials of a like nature, when the amount to be expended therefor shall be less than five hundred dollars.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 1 of Article 78A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "Public Works—Board of," be and the same hereby is repealed and reenacted with amendments so as to read as follows:

1. The Board of Public Works is hereby authorized, on or before the first day of July in each and every year, to advertise for ten successive days in three daily newspapers published in the City of Baltimore, and having, as nearly as said board may be able to ascertain, the largest circulation, that said board will receive bids for, based upon specifications to be furnished to all who may apply for the same, the stationery, record and blank books, and such other materials of a like nature as may be needed for the following departments of the State government, to wit: The Court of Appeals and Library of the State, the Executive Department, the General Assembly of Maryland for the year during which the same may be in session, and each of the bids made in accordance with such advertisements shall be transmitted to the said Board of Public Works on or before the time specified therefor in said advertisement, together with a bond to the State of Maryland, with a penalty of twenty thousand dollars, with two or more sureties, conditioned for the due, prompt and faithful compliance with the contract entered into, if such bid shall be accepted; and said board shall, on that day, at or near twelve o'clock M. of said day, not before, open such bids in the presence of such bidders and other persons who may choose to attend, and award the contract for such supplies to the lowest responsible bidder who shall have filed with his bid a bond satisfactory to said Board of Public Works; and said Board shall be the judge of the sufficiency of said bond, and no bid shall be considered by said Board unless accompanied by such bond.

Provided that whenever, in the judgment of the Board of Public Works, the amount to be expended for stationery, record and blank books, account books, and other materials of a like nature, as aforesaid, shall be less than the sum of five hundred