

23. Every department, board, commission, bureau, division, institution and agency of this State, hereinafter called the using authorities, shall purchase all materials, supplies and equipment, through or with the approval of the Director. It shall be the duty of the Director to prescribe rules and regulations under which estimates of the needs of using authorities shall be submitted, and requisition made, and under which contracts for purchases may be made.

The Director shall determine and formulate standards of all materials, supplies and equipment to be purchased for the using authorities of the State.

It shall be the duty of the Director to contract for or purchase all materials, supplies, and equipment, except those which the Director may determine are of a strictly perishable character, or which the Director may determine it is impracticable for the using authorities to purchase through or with the approval of the Director, or which may be purchased by using authorities under the authority and with the approval of the Director.

Estimates of the amount and quality of materials, supplies and equipment needed by the using authorities shall be submitted at such periods as may be prescribed by the Director. When purchases are made through competitive bidding, the Director may require the successful bidder to furnish a bond to the State, with good and sufficient surety, conditioned that he will fully and faithfully perform the terms of the contract. The penalty of all such bonds shall be determined by the Director.

No invoices for materials, supplies or equipment purchased by the Director or the using authorities, shall be paid until such invoices shall have received the approval of the Director. It shall be unlawful for any using authorities whose salaries and expenses are paid from the fees of his office to pay any contractor or seller for articles of any kind, unless the invoice approved by him is also approved by the Director. Any violation of this provision shall be cause for removal by the Governor.

24. Neither the Director nor any employee of the Department of Budget and Procurement shall be interested in or in any manner connected with, directly or indirectly, any contract or bid for furnishing materials, supplies or equipment to any of the using authorities. Neither shall the Director or any employee of the Department accept or receive from any person to whom any contract may be awarded, directly or indirectly, by rebate, gift or otherwise, any money or things of value whatsoever, or any promise, obligation or contract for future reward or compensation from any such party. If