- (C) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of General Services to contract for or purchase all materials, supplies, and equipment, except those which the Secretary may determine are of a strictly perishable character, or which the Secretary may determine it is impracticable for the using authorities to purchase through or with the approval of the Secretary, or which may be purchased by using authorities under the authority and with the approval of the Secretary.
- (D) 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 Secretary of General Services. When purchases are made through competitive bidding, the Secretary 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 Secretary.
- (E) No invoices for materials, supplies or equipment purchased by the Secretary of General Services or the using authorities, shall be paid until such invoices shall have received the approval of the Secretary. 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 Secretary. Any violation of this provision shall be cause for removal by the Governor.

231H.

- (A) Neither the Secretary of General Services nor any employee of the Department of General Services 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 Secretary 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 for any such party. If the Secretary or any employee of the Department shall violate any provision of this section, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both, in the discretion of the court.
- (B) All contracts for printing for the State or for any using authority, including the General Assembly of Maryland, with the exception of records and briefs for the State Law Department, and the printing of the Maryland Reports authorized in Article 80 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, title "Reporter—State," shall be made through or with the approval of the Secretary of General Services.
- (C) On or before September 1st prior to the reconvening of each session of the General Assembly, the Secretary of General Services shall obtain from the President and Secretary of the Senate, and from the Speaker and Chief Clerk of the House of Delegates, estimates of materials, supplies and equipment needed during the session; and the Secretary shall contract for the purchase of such supplies and equipment, including all printing needed by the General Assembly.
- (D) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of General Services to report his action in regard to materials, supplies and equipment for the

