

3.

(a) The county commissioners of each county in this State, except Worcester, (except as provided in subsection (1) hereof), Prince George's, Washington (except as hereinbelow provided), Somerset, Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Cecil, Howard and Queen Anne's (except as specifically provided in subsection (f) counties, in addition to, but not in substitution of, the powers which have been or may hereafter be granted them, shall have the following express powers:

(1) To provide for competitive bidding for any county work and the making and awarding of contracts for the purchase of materials and supplies in excess of \$1,000 in Harford County ~~and~~, IN EXCESS OF \$2,500 IN Worcester County, in excess of \$1,500 in Allegany County, and in all other counties \$500 and to require bonds in connection with said work or contracts, whenever deemed proper; and if no bids are submitted in response to any calls therefore, to place the order as in their discretion they deem best. The provisions of this subsection will not be applicable in Kent County.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1970.

Approved May 5, 1970

CHAPTER 648
(House Bill 1446)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 83 of Article 16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1966 Replacement Volume), title "Chancery," subtitle "Adoption," to make it possible for certain agencies or institutions to receive and accept reasonable reimbursement for the costs of adoptive services in order to permit necessary expansion of such services, empowering and directing the State Department of Social Services to set standards for such reimbursement.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 83 of Article 16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1966 Replacement Volume), title "Chancery," subtitle "Adoption," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments and to read as follows:

83.

It shall be unlawful for any agency, institution, or individual rendering any service in connection with the placement of a child for adoption to charge or receive from or on behalf of either the natural parent or parents of the person to be adopted, or from or on behalf of the person or persons legally adopting such person, any compensation whatsoever for [the] adoptive placement [service], but this shall not be construed to prohibit the payment by any interested persons of reasonable and customary charges or fees for hospital or medical or legal services.