

59A.

*The county superintendent of schools is hereby authorized to administer oaths and affirmations, AND TO examine under oath, in any part of the county, witnesses in any matter pertaining to the administration of the public schools of the county, and to cause the examination to be reduced to writing. Any person, who having been sworn or affirmed by him to tell the truth, and wilfully and corruptly gives false testimony, shall be guilty of the offense of perjury and punished as such. TO WITNESSES IN ALL APPEALS OR CASES COMING BEFORE THE LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.*

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1972.*

Approved May 26, 1972.

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CHAPTER 390

(Senate Bill 128)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, subsection (s) of Section 5 of Article 62B of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1968 Replacement Volume and 1971 Supplement), title "Maryland Port Administration," to provide that certain contracts entered into by the Maryland Port Administration for emergency repairs may be awarded by negotiation.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That subsection (s) of Section 5 of Article 62B of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1968 Replacement Volume and 1971 Supplement), title "Maryland Port Administration," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:*

5.

(s) To make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the execution of its powers under this article; provided, however, that all projects involving construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement and repair of port facilities, including the dredging of ship channels and turning basins and the filling and grading of land, which contracts involve the expenditure of five thousand dollars or more, shall be performed by private industry and contracts for the same shall be awarded on the basis of the lowest responsible bid received therefor in response to an invitation for bids published at least twice in two newspapers having general circulation in the State of Maryland, provided, however, that development work not susceptible to accurate bidding may be awarded by negotiation; and provided that contracts for emergency repairs required to keep port facilities in operation or to return such facilities promptly to operation may be awarded by negotiation SUCH NEGOTIATION TO INVOLVE AT LEAST THREE COMPANIES, IF AVAILABLE, WHO ARE QUALIFIED TO UNDERTAKE THESE REPAIRS; and, pro-