

(a) (1) The county commissioners of each county in this State, in addition to, but not in substitution of, the powers which have been or may be granted them, have the following express powers.

(1) (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 \$500 and to require bonds in connection with the work or contracts, whenever deemed proper; and if no bids are submitted in response to any calls therefor, to place the order as in their discretion they deem best.

(2) (i) The contracts shall be in excess of the amounts specified for the counties set forth in this paragraph.

- (ii) Allegany County--\$1,500
- (iii) Carroll County--\$3,500
- (iv) Charles County--\$2,500
- (v) Frederick County--[\$3,500] \$5,000
- (vi) Harford County--\$1,000
- (vii) St. Mary's County--\$2,500
- (viii) Somerset County--\$1,000
- (ix) Talbot County--\$1,000
- (x) Worcester County--\$2,500

(5) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION ARE NOT APPLICABLE IN FREDERICK COUNTY WITH REGARD SOLELY TO CONTRACTING FOR THE SERVICES OF AN ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING, OR CONSULTANT FIRM FOR DESIGN OR CONSULTATION PURPOSES. IN FREDERICK COUNTY, CONTRACTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES COSTING MORE THAN \$5,000, SHALL BE AWARDED ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS WHICH SHALL CONSIST OF EITHER SEALED COMPETITIVE BIDS OR COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE 21, SECTION 3-101(B).

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1981.

Approved May 19, 1981.
