- (2) PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A SUBCONTRACTOR FROM WITHHOLDING ANY AMOUNT IN ADDITION TO RETAINAGE IF THE SUBCONTRACTOR DETERMINES THAT A LOWER TIER SUBCONTRACTOR'S PERFORMANCE UNDER THE SUBCONTRACT PROVIDES REASONABLE GROUNDS FOR WITHHOLDING THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT.
- (D) IF RETAINAGE HAS BEEN PLACED IN ESCROW UNDER § 17-111 OF THIS SUBTITLE, EACH PAYMENT OF RETAINAGE SHALL INCLUDE A PRO RATA PORTION OF INTEREST EARNED.
- $(\underline{\mathbf{E}})$ This section may not be construed to limit the application of the remaining provisions of this subtitle.

17 111.

- (A) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY PROCUREMENT CONTRACT FUNDED WITH TAX EXEMPT FINANCING.
- (B) (1) SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, A CONTRACTOR UNDER A PROCUREMENT CONTRACT THAT A PUBLIC BODY AWARDS FOR CONSTRUCTION IS ENTITLED TO HAVE RETAINAGE UNDER THE PROCUREMENT CONTRACT PLACED IN AN ESCROW ACCOUNT IF THE CONTRACTOR:
- (I) ELECTS THAT PROCEDURE IN THE PROCUREMENT CONTRACT IN THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR THAT ELECTION; AND
- (II) SUBMITS TO THE PUBLIC BODY AN ESCROW ACREEMENT THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION
- $\stackrel{\mbox{\scriptsize (2)}}{-}$ THE PROCUREMENT CONTRACT SHALL IDENTIFY THE ESCROW AGENT.
 - (C) THE ESCROW ACREEMENT SHALL:
 - (1) BE ON A FORM THAT THE PUBLIC BODY PROVIDES:
- (2) INCLUDE THE COMPLETE ADDRESS OF BOTH THE ESCROW-AGENT AND THE SURETY;
- (3) AUTHORIZE THE PUBLIC BODY TO PAY RETAINAGE TO THE ESCROW AGENT: AND
 - (4) BE SIGNED BY:
 - (I) THE CONTRACTOR:
 - (H) THE SURETY FOR THE CONTRACTOR: AND
 - (III) THE ESCROW ACENT.
- (D) ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE PUBLIC BODY SHALL PAY THE RETAINAGE TO THE ESCROW AGENT UNLESS: