

certain contracts for goods or commodities; and requiring the Department of Education to establish a process that allows access to certain information.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Education

Section 5-112

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2001 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Education

5-112.

(a) This section does not apply to:

(1) Contracts for the purchase of books and other materials of instruction as defined in the State Department of Education Financial Reporting Manual; [and]

(2) Emergency repairs; AND

(3) A COUNTY BOARD'S PARTICIPATION IN CONTRACTS FOR GOODS OR COMMODITIES THAT ARE AWARDED BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES OR BY INTERGOVERNMENTAL PURCHASING ORGANIZATIONS IF THE LEAD AGENCY FOR THE CONTRACT FOLLOWS PUBLIC BIDDING PROCEDURES.

(b) (1) If the cost of any school building, improvement, supplies, or equipment is more than \$15,000, the county board, at least 2 weeks before bids are to be filed, shall advertise for bids in [at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county] A MEDIUM ACCESSIBLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, WHICH INCLUDES:

(I) A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION IN THE REGION;

(II) THE MARYLAND CONTRACT WEEKLY OR COMPARABLE STATE PUBLICATION; OR

(III) AN ELECTRONIC POSTING ON A BID BOARD AND PHYSICAL POSTING ON THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM BID BOARD.

(2) (i) The county board shall draft specifications that provide a clear and accurate description of the functional characteristics or the nature of an item to be procured, without modifying the county board's requirements.

(ii) The specifications may:

1. Include a statement of any of the county board's requirements; and

2. Provide for the submission of samples, inspection, or testing of the item before procurement.