

amount involved in the contract exceeds ~~[\$12,000] \$20,000~~ \$15,000 without advertising for bids in 1 or more newspapers published in the county. The publication of that advertisement shall appear at least once a week prior to the date on which bids are to be filed.

(b) Any contract of sale shall be awarded to the highest responsible bidder; any contract of purchase or other expenditure shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. However, the County Commissioners may reject any [and all bids] BID.

(c) (1) Any contract entered into in violation of the provisions of this section is void.

(2) [However, the] THE provisions of this section do not apply to:

(i) Any contract or other transaction involving the deposit of county funds in any authorized State or federal banking institution [and do not apply to necessary];

(II) NECESSARY repairs made in case of emergency; or

[(ii)](III) The purchase of tangible personal property at a public auction.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1992.

Approved May 5, 1992.

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CHAPTER 115

(House Bill 146)

AN ACT concerning

**Washington County - Collective Bargaining**

FOR the purpose of clarifying the authority of the County Commissioners of Washington County to negotiate wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment with groups of employees of the County; and prohibiting an employee of the County from participating in a strike.

BY adding to

The Public Local Laws of Washington County  
Section 1-111  
Article 22 - Public Local Laws of Maryland  
(1991 Edition, as amended)

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