

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Municipalities:  
Competitive Bids

JOSEPH E. BRENNAN  
ATTORNEY GENERAL



RICHARD S. COHEN  
JOHN M. R. PATERSON  
DONALD G. ALEXANDER  
DEPUTY ATTORNEYS GENERAL

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

October 22, 1976

The Honorable John L. Martin  
Speaker of the House  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Speaker Martin:

This responds to your question to this office as to whether there is any provision of state law which requires that municipal contracts in the amount of \$500 be let through the competitive bidding process. In this office's review of the statute books, we have found no law which requires that municipalities let contracts in the amount of \$500 or less through the competitive bidding process. In fact, there are certain provisions of law which appear to contemplate that certain municipal contracts will be let other than through competitive bids, 30 M.R.S.A. § 2251, and which authorize municipalities to set competitive bidding limits, 30 M.R.S.A. § 2317-1-G.

Especially note § 2317-1-G which provides:

"that the town or the selectmen may require that all purchases greater than a designated amount shall be submitted to sealed bid."

Of course there may be municipal ordinances which require competitive bids of contracts of this low level; however, such municipal ordinances would not be required by any state law.

I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

DONALD G. ALEXANDER  
Deputy Attorney General

DGA/ec