

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 65

H. P. 56

House of Representatives, January 10, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Local and County Government. Sent up for concurrence.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Stover of West Bath.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Increase the Limitation on Contracts which the County Commissioners may Enter into for Purchases and Constructions without Competitive Bidding.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA § 1816, sub-§ 2, ¶ A, as last amended by PL 1973, c. 731, is further amended to read:

A. The procurement of services, supplies, materials and equipment required involves the expenditure of less than \$250 **or less than \$500 for purchases by county commissioners pursuant to Title 30, section 304** and the interests of the State would best be served thereby;

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA § 304, first ¶, as enacted by PL 1969, c. 219, is amended to read:

Any contract for construction, renovation or improvement of county buildings or facilities involving a total cost of ~~\$2,000~~ **\$2,500** or more shall be awarded by a system of competitive bidding.

Sec. 3. 30 MRSA § 304, 2nd ¶, first sentence, as enacted by PL 1969, c. 219, is amended to read:

The county commissioners shall make all purchases over ~~\$250~~ \$500 of services, supplies, materials and equipment needed by the county, or any department or agency thereof, by competitive bidding.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to increase the amounts for which county commissioners may contract without using competitive bidding. Inflation and escalating costs make these upward adjustments reasonable and advisable. The present limitations are unrealistically restrictive.