

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1034 (Carroll County Delegation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Carroll County - Competitive Bids

This bill increases from \$12,000 to \$25,000 the amount of a contract for a public work or improvement or for the purchase of supplies and equipment that the County Commissioners of Carroll County may enter into without requiring competitive bids. The bill also requires that the contract be advertised in at least one newspaper circulated in the county.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Carroll County advises that savings of approximately \$15,000 in avoided advertising costs would be realized if the minimum contract amount that requires competitive bids is raised to \$25,000.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: A contract amount of \$12,000 or more, except in cases of emergencies or a sole source, requires a competitive bid. The contract must be advertised in at least two newspapers published in the county.

Local Fiscal Effect: Carroll County advises that in fiscal 2000 there were 107 contracts valued at \$12,000 or more that required a competitive bid. Of those contracts, 42 had a contract amount ranging from \$12,000 to \$25,000. The advertisement for these contracts

totaled \$15,000. Assuming a constant number of contracts in future years, Carroll County estimates that savings of approximately \$15,000 in avoided advertising costs would be realized by not advertising contracts that are under \$25,000.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Carroll County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 27, 2001
ef/hlb

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