

Article - General Provisions

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§5–508.

(a) An individual who assists an executive unit in the drafting of specifications, an invitation for bids, a request for proposals for a procurement, or the selection or award made in response to an invitation for bids or request for proposals, or a person that employs the individual, may not:

(1) submit a bid or proposal for that procurement; or

(2) assist or represent another person, directly or indirectly, who is submitting a bid or proposal for that procurement.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a) of this section, assisting in the drafting of specifications, an invitation for bids, or a request for proposals for a procurement does not include:

(1) providing descriptive literature such as catalogue sheets, brochures, technical data sheets, or standard specification “samples”, whether requested by an executive unit or provided unsolicited;

(2) submitting written or oral comments on a specification prepared by an executive unit or on a solicitation for a bid or proposal when comments are solicited from two or more persons as part of a request for information or a prebid or preproposal process;

(3) providing specifications for a sole source procurement made in accordance with § 13–107 of the State Finance and Procurement Article;

(4) providing architectural and engineering services for:

(i) programming, master planning, or other project planning services; or

(ii) the design of a construction project if:

1. the design services do not involve lead or prime design responsibilities or construction phase responsibilities on behalf of the State; and

2. A. the anticipated value of the procurement contract at the time of advertisement is at least \$2,500,000 and not more than \$100,000,000; or

B. regardless of the amount of the procurement contract, the payment to the individual or person for the design services does not exceed \$500,000; or

(5) for a procurement of health, human, social, or educational services, comments solicited from two or more persons as part of a request for information, including written or oral comments on a draft specification, invitation for bids, or request for proposals.

(c) A unit that receives comments as described in subsection (b)(2) and (5) of this section shall retain:

- (1) any written comments; and
- (2) a record of any oral comments.

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