

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1462 (Calvert County Delegation)
Health and Government Operations

Calvert County - Procurement - Competitive Bidding

This bill raises, from \$30,000 to \$50,000, the dollar value threshold of procurement contracts above which the Calvert County Commissioners must use a formal bidding process.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill pertains only to Calvert County.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect Calvert County finances, but Calvert County may experience administrative efficiencies by raising the dollar value threshold for small procurements.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: In general, contracts for supplies or services in Calvert County involving \$30,000 or more must be by formal bidding and be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. Chapter 744 of 2018 increased, from \$15,000 to \$30,000, the dollar value threshold of procurement contracts above which the Calvert County Commissioners must use a formal bidding process. It also required contracts resulting from a request for proposal to be awarded to the most responsible offeror (instead of the lowest responsible bidder) and for a revenue generating contract to be awarded to the highest responsible bidder. Chapter 744 also clarified that explanations of specified emergency purchases by the county commissioners must be published in at least two county newspapers for two weeks.

For purchases or contracts involving less than \$250,000 where Calvert County is acting as the general contractor, the purchase or contract may be awarded after the county obtains quotes from at least three vendors or subcontractors.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Calvert County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 12, 2024
km/ljm

Analysis by: Michael C. Rubenstein

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510