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**By: Charles County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1996  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 5, 1996

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Charles County - Competitive Bidding - Professional Services**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a certain exception concerning professional services to the  
4 competitive bidding requirement for certain work contracted by the Charles County  
5 Commissioners; and generally relating to the professional services exception to the  
6 competitive bidding requirement in Charles County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article 25 - County Commissioners  
9 Section 3(1)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article 25 - County Commissioners**

15 3.

16 (1) (1) To provide for competitive bidding for any county work and the making  
17 and awarding of contracts for the purchase of materials and supplies in excess of \$15,000  
18 and to require bonds in connection with the work or contracts, regardless of the amount,  
19 whenever the County Commissioners consider it proper to require a bond; and if no bids  
20 are submitted in response to any request for bids, to place the order in a manner that the  
21 County Commissioners consider appropriate.

22 (2) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection are not applicable in  
23 [Charles and] Somerset [Counties] COUNTY with regard solely to contracting for the  
24 services of an architectural and/or engineering firm for design and/or consultation

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1 purposes. With regard to contracting for other county work these provisions are  
2 applicable.

3 (3) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection are not applicable in  
4 Frederick County with regard solely to contracting for the services of an architectural,  
5 engineering, or consultant firm for design or consultation purposes. In Frederick County,  
6 contracts for architectural and engineering services costing more than \$15,000, shall be  
7 awarded on a competitive basis which shall consist of either sealed competitive bids or  
8 competitive negotiation. "Competitive negotiation" means a process that includes the  
9 submission of written technical and price proposals from two or more sources and a  
10 written evaluation of those proposals in accordance with evaluation criteria.

11 (4) THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION ARE NOT  
12 APPLICABLE IN CHARLES COUNTY WITH REGARD TO CONTRACTING FOR ANY  
13 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 1996.