

## Chapter 781

**(House Bill 490)**

AN ACT concerning

**St. Mary's County – Competitive Bidding – Threshold**

FOR the purpose of increasing the minimum contract value to require a competitive bidding process in St. Mary's County for contracts for services or supplies; and generally relating to procurement in St. Mary's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Local Government  
Section 12–301  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2013 Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

**Article – Local Government**

12–301.

- (a) This section applies only to commission counties.
- (b) The provisions of §§ 9–105 and 9–106 of this article apply to an act, an ordinance, or a resolution adopted under this section.
- (c) The county commissioners shall:
  - (1) establish a competitive bidding process for awarding contracts for services or the purchase of supplies if the contract exceeds \$15,000;
  - (2) require a bond in connection with a contract, regardless of the amount;and
  - (3) if no bids are submitted in response to a request for bids, obtain the services or supplies in a manner that the county commissioners consider appropriate.
- (d) In Somerset County, subsection (c) of this section does not apply to a contract solely for design or consultation services.

**(E) IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY, SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A CONTRACT FOR SERVICES OR THE PURCHASE OF SUPPLIES IF THE CONTRACT EXCEEDS \$50,000.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2025.

**Approved by the Governor, May 20, 2025.**