

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

House Bill 490 (Delegate T. Morgan, *et al.*)  
Environment and Transportation

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St. Mary's County - Competitive Bidding - Threshold

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This bill exempts St. Mary's County contracts for services and contracts for supplies valued up to \$50,000 from existing requirements to (1) establish a competitive bidding process for awarding contracts for services or supplies up to \$15,000; (2) require a bond in connection with a contract of any amount; and (3) obtain services or supplies in a manner the county commissioners consider appropriate if no bids are submitted for a contract.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill affects only local government operations.

**Local Effect:** The bill may create operational efficiencies for St. Mary's County but does not materially affect county finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** County commissioners in commission counties must (1) establish a competitive bidding process for awarding contracts for services or the purchase of supplies if a contract exceeds \$15,000; (2) require a bond in connection with a contract of any amount; and (3) obtain services or supplies in a manner the county commissioners consider appropriate if no bids are submitted. Contracts solely for design or consultation services are exempt from these requirements in Somerset County.

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## **Additional Information**

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

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** St. Mary's County; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 7, 2025  
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