
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 741 Session of
1989

INTRODUCED BY STOUT, CORMAN, STEWART, BRIGHTBILL, PUNT, LEMMOND,
PORTERFIELD, MADIGAN, AFFLERBACH, REIBMAN AND PETERSON,
MARCH 21, 1989

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, MAY 30, 1990

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 29, 1953 (P.L.1034, No.270), entitled,
2 as amended, "An act creating as bodies corporate and politic
3 'Public Auditorium Authorities' in counties of the second
4 class and in cities of the second class and in cities of the
5 second class A to borrow money and issue bonds therefor;
6 providing for the payment of such bonds and prescribing the
7 rights of the holders thereof; conferring the right of
8 eminent domain on such Authorities; empowering such
9 Authorities to enter into contracts, leases and licenses with
10 and to accept grants from private sources, the Federal
11 Government, State, political subdivisions of the State or any
12 agency thereof; authorizing the making of said grants from
13 bond funds or current revenues; authorizing Authorities to
14 collect rentals, admissions, license fees for the use of the
15 project; exempting the property and securities of such Public
16 Auditorium Authorities from taxation," increasing the amount
17 of contracts that may be awarded without competitive bids;
18 and further providing for the purchase of supplies and
19 materials.

20 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
21 hereby enacts as follows:

22 Section 1. Section 11 of the act of July 29, 1953 (P.L.1034,
23 No.270), known as the Public Auditorium Authorities Law, amended
24 or added October 4, 1978 (P.L.1055, No.244) and December 22,
25 1981 (P.L.549, No.161), is amended to read:

1 Section 11. Competition in Award of Contracts.

2 A. All construction, reconstruction, repairs or work of any
3 nature made by any Authority, where the entire cost, value or
4 amount of such construction, reconstruction, repairs or work,
5 including labor and materials, shall exceed [four thousand
6 dollars (\$4,000.00)] ~~ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)~~ THE MONETARY ←
7 THRESHOLD LEVEL FOR THE AUTHORITY, except construction,
8 reconstruction, repairs or work done by employees of said
9 Authority or by labor supplied under agreement with any Federal
10 or State agency with supplies and materials purchased, as
11 hereinafter provided, shall be done only under contract or
12 contracts to be entered into by the Authority with the lowest
13 responsible bidder upon proper terms, after due public notice
14 has been given asking for competitive bids hereinafter provided.
15 No contract shall be entered into for construction or
16 improvement or repair of any project or portion thereof unless
17 the contractor shall give an undertaking, with a sufficient
18 surety or sureties approved by the Authority and in an amount
19 fixed by the Authority, for the faithful performance of the
20 contract. All such contracts shall provide, among other things,
21 that the person or corporation entering into such contract with
22 the Authority will pay for all materials furnished and services
23 rendered for the performance of the contract and that any person
24 or corporation furnishing such materials or rendering such
25 services may maintain an action to recover for the same against
26 the obligor in the undertaking as though such person or
27 corporation was named therein, provided the action is brought
28 within one year after the time the cause of action accrued.
29 Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the power of
30 the Authority to construct, repair or improve any project or

1 portion thereof or any addition, betterment or extension thereto
2 directly by the officers, agents and employes of the Authority
3 or otherwise than by contract.

4 A.1. THE MONETARY THRESHOLD LEVEL ABOVE WHICH COMPETITIVE <—
5 BIDDING SHALL BE REQUIRED SHALL BE ONE PER CENTUM (1%) OF THE
6 TOTAL OF ALL BUDGETS ADMINISTERED BY THE AUTHORITY, BUT IN NO
7 CASE SHALL THE MONETARY THRESHOLD BE LESS THAN FOUR THOUSAND
8 DOLLARS (\$4,000), NOR MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000).

9 B. All supplies and materials [costing ~~four thousand~~ <—
10 ~~dollars (\$4,000.00)~~ ~~ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)~~ or more] <—
11 WHICH COST OR EXCEED THE MONETARY THRESHOLD LEVEL FOR THE <—
12 AUTHORITY shall be purchased only after due advertisement as
13 hereinafter provided. The Authority shall accept the lowest bid
14 or bids, kinds, quality and material being equal, but the
15 Authority shall have the right to reject any or all bids or
16 select a single item from any bid. The provisions as to bidding
17 shall not apply to the purchase of patented and manufactured
18 products offered for sale in a non-competitive market or solely
19 by a manufacturer's authorized dealer.

20 B.1. WRITTEN OR TELEPHONIC PRICE QUOTATIONS FROM AT LEAST <—
21 THREE QUALIFIED AND RESPONSIBLE CONTRACTORS SHALL BE REQUESTED
22 FOR ALL CONTRACTS THAT EXCEED FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$4,000) BUT
23 ARE LESS THAN THE AMOUNT REQUIRING ADVERTISEMENT AND COMPETITIVE
24 BIDDING OR, IN LIEU OF PRICE QUOTATIONS, A MEMORANDUM SHALL BE
25 KEPT ON FILE SHOWING THAT FEWER THAN THREE QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS
26 EXIST IN THE MARKET AREA WITHIN WHICH IT IS PRACTICABLE TO
27 OBTAIN QUOTATIONS. A WRITTEN RECORD OF TELEPHONIC PRICE
28 QUOTATIONS SHALL BE MADE AND SHALL CONTAIN AT LEAST THE DATE OF
29 THE QUOTATION, THE NAME OF THE CONTRACTOR AND THE CONTRACTOR'S
30 REPRESENTATIVE, THE CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, REPAIR,

1 MAINTENANCE OR WORK WHICH WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE QUOTATION AND
2 THE PRICE. WRITTEN PRICE QUOTATIONS, WRITTEN RECORDS OF
3 TELEPHONIC PRICE QUOTATIONS AND MEMORANDA SHALL BE RETAINED FOR
4 A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS.

5 C. The terms, advertisement or due public notice, wherever
6 used in this section, shall mean a notice published at least ten
7 (10) days before the award on any contract in a newspaper of
8 general circulation published in the municipality where the
9 Authority has its principal office, and if no newspaper is
10 published therein then by publication in a newspaper in the
11 county where the Authority has its principal office: Provided,
12 That such notice may be waived where the Authority determines an
13 emergency exists and such supplies and materials must be
14 immediately purchased by the said Authority.

15 D. No member of the Authority or officer or employe thereof
16 shall, either directly or indirectly, be a party to or be in any
17 manner interested in any contract or agreement with the
18 Authority for any matter, cause or thing whatsoever, by reason
19 whereof any liability or indebtedness shall in any way be
20 created against such Authority. If any contract or agreement
21 shall be made in violation of the provision of this section, the
22 same shall be null and void and no action shall be maintained
23 thereon against such Authority.

24 E. Subject to the aforesaid, any Authority may (but without
25 intending by this provision to limit any powers of such
26 Authority) enter into and carry out such contracts or establish
27 or comply with such rules and regulations concerning labor and
28 materials and other related matters, in connection with any
29 project or portion thereof, as the Authority may deem desirable,
30 or as may be requested by any Federal agency that may assist in

1 the financing of such project or any part thereof: Provided,
2 however, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to
3 any case in which the Authority has taken over by transfer or
4 assignment any contract authorized to be assigned to it under
5 the provisions of section ten of this act, nor to any contract
6 in connection with the construction of any project which the
7 Authority may have had transferred to it by any person or
8 private corporation.

9 F. Every contract for the construction, reconstruction,
10 alteration, repair, improvement or maintenance of public works
11 shall comply with the provisions of the act of March 3, 1978
12 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the "Steel Products Procurement Act."

13 G. An Authority shall not evade the provisions of this
14 section as to advertising for bids or purchasing materials or
15 contracting for services piece-meal, for the purpose of
16 obtaining prices under ~~ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)~~ THE <—
17 MONETARY THRESHOLD LEVEL FOR THE AUTHORITY upon transactions
18 which should in the exercise of reasonable discretion and
19 prudence be conducted as one transaction amounting to more than
20 ~~ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)~~ THE MONETARY THRESHOLD LEVEL FOR <—
21 THE AUTHORITY. This provision is intended to make unlawful the
22 practice of evading advertising requirements by making a series
23 of purchases or contracts each for less than the advertising
24 requirement price, or by making several simultaneous purchases
25 or contracts each below said price, when in either case the
26 transaction involved should have been made as one transaction
27 for one price.

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.