

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL

No. 279 Session of  
2011

INTRODUCED BY M. K. KELLER, AUMENT, BAKER, BEAR, BENNINGHOFF, BLOOM, BOBACK, BOYD, BROOKS, CAUSER, CHRISTIANA, CLYMER, COX, CREIGHTON, CUTLER, DELOZIER, DENLINGER, ELLIS, EVERETT, FARRY, FLECK, GABLER, GEIST, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GRELL, GROVE, HALUSKA, HARHART, HARPER, HARRIS, HELM, HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, KAUFFMAN, KILLION, KNOWLES, MAJOR, MARSHALL, MARSICO, MASSER, METCALFE, MILLARD, MILLER, MOUL, OBERLANDER, O'NEILL, PAYNE, PEIFER, PERRY, PICKETT, PYLE, QUIGLEY, QUINN, RAPP, REED, REICHLEY, ROAE, ROCK, ROSS, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, CULVER, SCHRODER, SIMMONS, SONNEY, STERN, STEVENSON, SWANGER, TALLMAN, TOBASH, TRUITT, TURZAI, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WATSON AND F. KELLER, JANUARY 27, 2011

SENATOR EICHELBERGER, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, IN SENATE, AS AMENDED,  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

## AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), entitled  
2 "An act concerning townships of the first class; amending,  
3 revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating  
4 thereto," in contracts, further providing for general  
5 regulations concerning contracts, for evasion of advertising  
6 requirements and for separate specifications for branches of  
7 work.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 ~~Section 1. Section 1802(a), (a.1) and (d)(2) of the act of~~ ←  
11 ~~June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The First Class~~  
12 ~~Township Code, reenacted and amended May 27, 1949 (P.L.1955,~~  
13 ~~No.569) and amended or added July 10, 1990 (P.L.389, No.92),~~  
14 ~~December 18, 1996 (P.L.1149, No.173) and December 20, 1996~~

~~(P.L.1495, No.192), are amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection to read:~~

~~Section 1802. General Regulations Concerning Contracts. (a)~~

~~All contracts or purchases made by any township, involving the expenditure [of over ten thousand dollars] in excess of the base amount of twenty five thousand dollars subject to annual adjustment under subsection (a.2), except those hereinafter mentioned, shall not be made except with and from the lowest responsible bidder, shall be in writing, and shall be made only after notice by the secretary, published, in one newspaper of general circulation, published or circulating in the county in which the township is situated, at least two times at intervals of not less than three days where daily newspapers of general circulation are employed for such publication, or in case weekly newspapers are employed then the notice shall be published once a week for two successive weeks. The first advertisement shall be published not more than forty five days and the second advertisement not less than ten days prior to the date fixed for the opening of bids. Advertisements for contracts or purchases shall also be posted in a conspicuous place within the township. Advertisements for contracts or purchases shall contain the date, time and location for opening of bids and shall state the amount of the performance bond determined under subsection (c). All plans and specifications shall be on file at least ten days in advance of opening bids. The amount of the contract shall in all cases, whether of straight sale price, conditional sale, bailment lease, or otherwise, be the entire amount which the township pays to the successful bidder or his assigns in order to obtain the services or property, or both, and shall not be construed to mean only the amount which is paid to acquire title~~

~~or to receive any other particular benefit or benefits of the whole bargain.~~

~~(a.1) Written or telephonic price quotations from at least three qualified and responsible contractors shall be requested for all contracts that [exceed four thousand dollars] are in excess of the base amount of ten thousand dollars subject to annual adjustment under subsection (a.2) but are less than the amount requiring advertisement and competitive bidding or, in lieu of price quotations, a memorandum shall be kept on file showing that fewer than three qualified contractors exist in the market area within which it is practicable to obtain quotations. A written record of telephonic price quotations shall be made and shall contain at least the date of the quotation, the name of the contractor and the contractor's representative, the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance or work which was the subject of the quotation and the price. Written price quotations, written records of telephonic price quotations and memoranda shall be retained for a period of three years.~~

~~(a.2) Adjustments to the base amounts specified under subsections (a), (a.1) and (d) (2) and sections 1802.1(a) and 1805 shall be made as follows:~~

~~(1) The Department of Labor and Industry shall determine the percentage change in the All Items Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the United States City Average as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics for the twelve month period ending September 30 of the calendar year in which this subsection becomes effective, and for each successive twelve month period thereafter.~~

~~(2) If the department determines that there is no positive percentage change, then no adjustment to the base amounts shall~~

~~occur for the relevant time period provided for in this subsection.~~

~~(3) (i) If the department determines that there is a positive percentage change in the first year that the determination is made under paragraph (1), the positive percentage change shall be multiplied by each base amount and the products shall be added to the base amounts, respectively, and the sums shall be preliminary adjusted amounts.~~

~~(ii) The preliminary adjusted amounts shall be rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars to determine the final adjusted base amounts for purposes of subsections (a), (a.1) and (d)(2) and sections 1802.1(a) and 1805.~~

~~(4) In each successive year in which there is a positive percentage change in the CPI U for the United States City Average, the positive percentage change shall be multiplied by the most recent preliminary adjusted amounts and the products shall be added to the most recent preliminary adjusted amounts, respectively. The sums thereof shall be rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars to determine the new final adjusted base amounts for purposes of subsections (a), (a.1) and (d)(2) and sections 1802.1(a) and 1805.~~

~~(5) The determinations and adjustments required under this subsection shall be made in the period between October 1 and November 15 of the year following the effective date of this subsection, and annually between October 1 and November 15 of each year thereafter.~~

~~(6) The final adjusted base amounts and new final adjusted base amounts obtained under paragraphs (3) and (4) shall become effective January 1 for the calendar year following the year in which the determination required under paragraph (1) is made.~~

~~(7) The department shall publish notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin prior to January 1 of each calendar year of the annual percentage change determined under paragraph (1) and the unadjusted or final adjusted base amounts determined under paragraphs (3) and (4) for purposes of subsections (a), (a.1) and (d)(2) and sections 1802.1(a) and 1805, respectively, for the calendar year beginning the first day of January after publication of the notice. The notice shall include a written and illustrative explanation of the calculations performed by the department in establishing the unadjusted or final adjusted base amounts under this subsection for the ensuing calendar year.~~

~~\* \* \*~~

SECTION 1. SECTION 1802(A), (A.1) AND (D)(2) OF THE ACT OF JUNE 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, NO.331), KNOWN AS THE FIRST CLASS TOWNSHIP CODE, REENACTED AND AMENDED MAY 27, 1949 (P.L.1955, NO.569) AND AMENDED OR ADDED JULY 10, 1990 (P.L.389, NO.92), DECEMBER 18, 1996 (P.L.1149, NO.173) AND DECEMBER 20, 1996 (P.L.1495, NO.192), ARE AMENDED AND THE SECTION IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SUBSECTION TO READ:

SECTION 1802. GENERAL REGULATIONS CONCERNING CONTRACTS.--(A) ALL CONTRACTS OR PURCHASES MADE BY ANY TOWNSHIP, INVOLVING THE EXPENDITURE OF OVER [TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS] THE BASE AMOUNT OF EIGHTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (A.2), EXCEPT THOSE HEREINAFTER MENTIONED, SHALL NOT BE MADE EXCEPT WITH AND FROM THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, SHALL BE IN WRITING, AND SHALL BE MADE ONLY AFTER NOTICE BY THE SECRETARY, PUBLISHED, IN ONE NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION, PUBLISHED OR CIRCULATING IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE TOWNSHIP IS SITUATED, AT LEAST TWO TIMES AT INTERVALS OF NOT

1 LESS THAN THREE DAYS WHERE DAILY NEWSPAPERS OF GENERAL  
2 CIRCULATION ARE EMPLOYED FOR SUCH PUBLICATION, OR IN CASE WEEKLY  
3 NEWSPAPERS ARE EMPLOYED THEN THE NOTICE SHALL BE PUBLISHED ONCE  
4 A WEEK FOR TWO SUCCESSIVE WEEKS. THE FIRST ADVERTISEMENT SHALL  
5 BE PUBLISHED NOT MORE THAN FORTY-FIVE DAYS AND THE SECOND  
6 ADVERTISEMENT NOT LESS THAN TEN DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE FIXED FOR  
7 THE OPENING OF BIDS. ADVERTISEMENTS FOR CONTRACTS OR PURCHASES  
8 SHALL ALSO BE POSTED IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP.  
9 ADVERTISEMENTS FOR CONTRACTS OR PURCHASES SHALL CONTAIN THE  
10 DATE, TIME AND LOCATION FOR OPENING OF BIDS AND SHALL STATE THE  
11 AMOUNT OF THE PERFORMANCE BOND DETERMINED UNDER SUBSECTION (C).  
12 ALL PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS SHALL BE ON FILE AT LEAST TEN DAYS  
13 IN ADVANCE OF OPENING BIDS. THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT SHALL IN  
14 ALL CASES, WHETHER OF STRAIGHT SALE PRICE, CONDITIONAL SALE,  
15 BAILMENT LEASE, OR OTHERWISE, BE THE ENTIRE AMOUNT WHICH THE  
16 TOWNSHIP PAYS TO THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER OR HIS ASSIGNS IN ORDER  
17 TO OBTAIN THE SERVICES OR PROPERTY, OR BOTH, AND SHALL NOT BE  
18 CONSTRUED TO MEAN ONLY THE AMOUNT WHICH IS PAID TO ACQUIRE TITLE  
19 OR TO RECEIVE ANY OTHER PARTICULAR BENEFIT OR BENEFITS OF THE  
20 WHOLE BARGAIN.

21 (A.1) WRITTEN OR TELEPHONIC PRICE QUOTATIONS FROM AT LEAST  
22 THREE QUALIFIED AND RESPONSIBLE CONTRACTORS SHALL BE REQUESTED  
23 FOR ALL CONTRACTS [THAT EXCEED FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS] IN EXCESS  
24 OF THE BASE AMOUNT OF TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENT  
25 UNDER SUBSECTION (A.2) BUT [ARE] LESS THAN THE AMOUNT REQUIRING  
26 ADVERTISEMENT AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING OR, IN LIEU OF PRICE  
27 QUOTATIONS, A MEMORANDUM SHALL BE KEPT ON FILE SHOWING THAT  
28 FEWER THAN THREE QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS EXIST IN THE MARKET AREA  
29 WITHIN WHICH IT IS PRACTICABLE TO OBTAIN QUOTATIONS. A WRITTEN  
30 RECORD OF TELEPHONIC PRICE QUOTATIONS SHALL BE MADE AND SHALL

1 CONTAIN AT LEAST THE DATE OF THE QUOTATION, THE NAME OF THE  
2 CONTRACTOR AND THE CONTRACTOR'S REPRESENTATIVE, THE  
3 CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE OR WORK WHICH  
4 WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE QUOTATION AND THE PRICE. WRITTEN PRICE  
5 QUOTATIONS, WRITTEN RECORDS OF TELEPHONIC PRICE QUOTATIONS AND  
6 MEMORANDA SHALL BE RETAINED FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS.

7 (A.2) ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BASE AMOUNTS SPECIFIED UNDER  
8 SUBSECTION (A) SHALL BE MADE AS FOLLOWS:

9 (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY SHALL DETERMINE THE  
10 PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE ALL ITEMS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR ALL  
11 URBAN CONSUMERS (CPI-U) FOR THE UNITED STATES CITY AVERAGE AS  
12 PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, BUREAU OF  
13 LABOR STATISTICS FOR THE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER  
14 30, 2012, AND FOR EACH SUCCESSIVE TWELVE-MONTH PERIOD  
15 THEREAFTER.

16 (2) IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THERE IS NO POSITIVE  
17 PERCENTAGE CHANGE, THEN NO ADJUSTMENT TO THE BASE AMOUNTS SHALL  
18 OCCUR FOR THE RELEVANT TIME PERIOD PROVIDED FOR IN THIS  
19 SUBSECTION.

20 (3) (I) IF THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THERE IS A  
21 POSITIVE PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE FIRST YEAR THAT THE  
22 DETERMINATION IS MADE UNDER CLAUSE (1), THE POSITIVE PERCENTAGE  
23 CHANGE SHALL BE MULTIPLIED BY EACH BASE AMOUNT AND THE PRODUCTS  
24 SHALL BE ADDED TO THE BASE AMOUNTS, RESPECTIVELY, AND THE SUMS  
25 SHALL BE PRELIMINARY ADJUSTED AMOUNTS.

26 (II) THE PRELIMINARY ADJUSTED AMOUNTS SHALL BE ROUNDED TO  
27 THE NEAREST ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS, TO DETERMINE THE FINAL ADJUSTED  
28 BASE AMOUNTS FOR PURPOSES OF SUBSECTION (A).

29 (4) IN EACH SUCCESSIVE YEAR IN WHICH THERE IS A POSITIVE  
30 PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE CPI-U FOR THE UNITED STATES CITY

1 AVERAGE, THE POSITIVE PERCENTAGE CHANGE SHALL BE MULTIPLIED BY  
2 THE MOST RECENT PRELIMINARY ADJUSTED AMOUNTS AND THE PRODUCTS  
3 SHALL BE ADDED TO THE PRELIMINARY ADJUSTED AMOUNT OF THE PRIOR  
4 YEAR TO CALCULATE THE PRELIMINARY ADJUSTED AMOUNTS FOR THE  
5 CURRENT YEAR. THE SUMS THEREOF SHALL BE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST  
6 ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS TO DETERMINE THE NEW FINAL ADJUSTED BASE  
7 AMOUNTS FOR PURPOSES OF SUBSECTION (A).

8 (5) THE DETERMINATIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS REQUIRED UNDER THIS  
9 SUBSECTION SHALL BE MADE IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN OCTOBER 1 AND  
10 NOVEMBER 15 OF THE YEAR FOLLOWING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS  
11 SUBSECTION, AND ANNUALLY BETWEEN OCTOBER 1 AND NOVEMBER 15 OF  
12 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER.

13 (6) THE FINAL ADJUSTED BASE AMOUNTS AND NEW FINAL ADJUSTED  
14 BASE AMOUNTS OBTAINED UNDER CLAUSES (3) AND (4) SHALL BECOME  
15 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR FOLLOWING THE YEAR IN  
16 WHICH THE DETERMINATION REQUIRED UNDER CLAUSE (1) IS MADE.

17 (7) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH NOTICE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA  
18 BULLETIN PRIOR TO JANUARY 1 OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR OF THE ANNUAL  
19 PERCENTAGE CHANGE DETERMINED UNDER CLAUSE (1) AND THE UNADJUSTED  
20 OR FINAL ADJUSTED BASE AMOUNTS DETERMINED UNDER CLAUSES (3) AND  
21 (4) AT WHICH COMPETITIVE BIDDING IS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION  
22 (A) FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY  
23 AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE. THE NOTICE SHALL INCLUDE A  
24 WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATIVE EXPLANATION OF THE CALCULATIONS  
25 PERFORMED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN ESTABLISHING THE UNADJUSTED OR  
26 FINAL ADJUSTED BASE AMOUNTS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE  
27 ENSUING CALENDAR YEAR.

28 (8) THE ANNUAL INCREASE IN THE PRELIMINARY ADJUSTED BASE  
29 AMOUNTS OBTAINED UNDER CLAUSES (3) AND (4) SHALL NOT EXCEED  
30 THREE PER CENTUM.



1 \* \* \*

2 (d) The contracts or purchases made by the commissioners  
3 which shall not require advertising, bidding or price  
4 quotations, as hereinbefore provided, are as follows:

5 \* \* \*

6 (2) Those made for improvements, repairs and maintenance of  
7 any kind made or provided by any township through its own  
8 employes: Provided, however, That all materials used for street  
9 improvement, maintenance, and/or construction in excess of  
10 [four] the base amount of ten thousand dollars be subject to the  
11 relevant price quotation or advertising requirements as  
12 contained herein and to annual adjustment under subsection  
13 (a.2).

14 \* \* \*

15 ~~Section 2. Sections 1802.1 and 1805 of the act, amended~~  
16 ~~July 10, 1990 (P.L.389, No.92), are amended to read:~~

17 ~~Section 1802.1. Evasion of Advertising Requirements. (a)~~  
18 ~~No commissioner or commissioners shall evade the provisions of~~  
19 ~~section one thousand eight hundred two as to advertising for~~  
20 ~~bids, by purchasing or contracting for services and personal~~  
21 ~~properties piecemeal for the purpose of obtaining prices under~~  
22 ~~[ten thousand dollars] the base amount of twenty five thousand~~  
23 ~~dollars subject to annual adjustment under section 1802(a.2)~~  
24 ~~upon transactions, which transactions should, in the exercise of~~  
25 ~~reasonable discretion and prudence, be conducted as one~~  
26 ~~transaction amounting to more than [ten thousand dollars] the~~  
27 ~~base amount of twenty five thousand dollars subject to annual~~  
28 ~~adjustment under section 1802(a.2). This provision is intended~~  
29 ~~to make unlawful the evading of advertising requirements by~~  
30 ~~making a series of purchases or contracts each for less than the~~

~~advertising requirement price, or by making several simultaneous purchases or contracts, each below said price, when in either case, the transactions involved should have been made as one transaction for one price. Any commissioners who so vote in violation of this provision, and who know that the transaction upon which they so vote is or ought to be a part of a larger transaction, and that it is being divided in order to evade the requirements as to advertising for bids, shall be jointly and severally subject to surcharge for ten per centum of the full amount of the contract or purchase. Whenever it shall appear that a commissioner may have voted in violation of this section, but the purchase or contract on which he so voted was not approved by the board of commissioners, this section shall be inapplicable.~~

~~(b) Any commissioner who votes to unlawfully evade the provisions of section one thousand eight hundred two and who knows that the transaction upon which he so votes is or ought to be a part of a larger transaction and that it is being divided in order to evade the requirements as to advertising for bids commits a misdemeanor of the third degree for each contract entered into as a direct result of that vote. This penalty shall be in addition to any surcharge which may be assessed pursuant to subsection (a).~~

SECTION 2. SECTIONS 1802.1 AND 1805 OF THE ACT, AMENDED JULY 10, 1990 (P.L.389, NO.92), ARE AMENDED TO READ:

SECTION 1802.1. EVASION OF ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS.--(A) NO COMMISSIONER OR COMMISSIONERS SHALL EVADE THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWO AS TO ADVERTISING FOR BIDS, BY PURCHASING OR CONTRACTING FOR SERVICES AND PERSONAL PROPERTIES PIECEMEAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING PRICES UNDER

1 [TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS] EIGHTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS  
2 SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENT UNDER SECTION 1802 (A.2) UPON TRANSACTIONS,  
3 WHICH TRANSACTIONS SHOULD, IN THE EXERCISE OF REASONABLE  
4 DISCRETION AND PRUDENCE, BE CONDUCTED AS ONE TRANSACTION  
5 AMOUNTING TO MORE THAN [TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS] EIGHTEEN THOUSAND  
6 FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENT UNDER SECTION  
7 1802 (A.2). THIS PROVISION IS INTENDED TO MAKE UNLAWFUL THE  
8 EVADING OF ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS BY MAKING A SERIES OF  
9 PURCHASES OR CONTRACTS EACH FOR LESS THAN THE ADVERTISING  
10 REQUIREMENT PRICE, OR BY MAKING SEVERAL SIMULTANEOUS PURCHASES  
11 OR CONTRACTS, EACH BELOW SAID PRICE, WHEN IN EITHER CASE, THE  
12 TRANSACTIONS INVOLVED SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE AS ONE TRANSACTION  
13 FOR ONE PRICE. ANY COMMISSIONERS WHO SO VOTE IN VIOLATION OF  
14 THIS PROVISION, AND WHO KNOW THAT THE TRANSACTION UPON WHICH  
15 THEY SO VOTE IS OR OUGHT TO BE A PART OF A LARGER TRANSACTION,  
16 AND THAT IT IS BEING DIVIDED IN ORDER TO EVADE THE REQUIREMENTS  
17 AS TO ADVERTISING FOR BIDS, SHALL BE JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY  
18 SUBJECT TO SURCHARGE FOR TEN PER CENTUM OF THE FULL AMOUNT OF  
19 THE CONTRACT OR PURCHASE. WHENEVER IT SHALL APPEAR THAT A  
20 COMMISSIONER MAY HAVE VOTED IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION, BUT  
21 THE PURCHASE OR CONTRACT ON WHICH HE SO VOTED WAS NOT APPROVED  
22 BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, THIS SECTION SHALL BE  
23 INAPPLICABLE.

24 (B) ANY COMMISSIONER WHO VOTES TO UNLAWFULLY EVADE THE  
25 PROVISIONS OF SECTION ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWO AND WHO  
26 KNOWS THAT THE TRANSACTION UPON WHICH HE SO VOTES IS OR OUGHT TO  
27 BE A PART OF A LARGER TRANSACTION AND THAT IT IS BEING DIVIDED  
28 IN ORDER TO EVADE THE REQUIREMENTS AS TO ADVERTISING FOR BIDS  
29 COMMITS A MISDEMEANOR OF THE THIRD DEGREE FOR EACH CONTRACT  
30 ENTERED INTO AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THAT VOTE. THIS PENALTY SHALL

1 BE IN ADDITION TO ANY SURCHARGE WHICH MAY BE ASSESSED PURSUANT  
2 TO SUBSECTION (A) .

3 Section 1805. Separate Specifications for Branches of  
4 Work.--In the preparation of specifications for the erection or  
5 alteration of any public building, when the entire cost of such  
6 work exceeds [ten] ~~twenty five~~ thousand] THE BASE AMOUNT OF ←  
7 EIGHTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED dollars, subject to annual  
8 adjustment under section 1802(a.2), the architect, engineer, or  
9 person preparing such specifications shall prepare separate  
10 specifications for the plumbing, heating, ventilating, and  
11 electrical work, and the township shall receive separate bids  
12 upon each of such branches of work, and award the contract for  
13 the same to the lowest responsible bidder.

14 Section 3. This act shall apply to contracts and purchases  
15 advertised on or after January 1 of the year following the  
16 effective date of this section.

17 Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.