

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

A Bill

SENATE BILL 329

By: Senator A. Clark

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO RAISE THE PRICE THRESHOLD FOR THE PURCHASE OF COMMODITIES THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS MUST PROCURE BY SOLICITING BIDS; TO PROVIDE FOR ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS IN THE PURCHASE PRICE THRESHOLD BASED ON INFLATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO RAISE THE PRICE THRESHOLD FOR THE PURCHASE OF COMMODITIES THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS MUST PROCURE BY SOLICITING BIDS; AND TO PROVIDE FOR ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS IN THE PURCHASE PRICE THRESHOLD BASED ON INFLATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-21-304(a)(1), concerning the procurement of commodities by a school district, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) All purchases of commodities by any school district, except those specifically exempted by § 6-21-305, shall be made as follows:

~~(A)(i)(a)~~ In each instance in which the estimated purchase price shall equal or exceed ~~ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)~~ twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), the commodity shall be procured by soliciting bids, provided that the purchasing official may reject all bids and may purchase the commodity by negotiating a contract.

~~(i)(b)~~ If the purchasing official, after rejecting all bids, determines that the purchase should be made by



negotiation, then each responsible bidder who submitted a bid shall be notified of the determination and shall be given a reasonable opportunity to negotiate;

~~(B)(ii)~~ Open market purchases may be made when the purchase price is less than ~~ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)~~ twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000); and

~~(C)(iii)~~ No purchasing official shall parcel or split any item or items with the intent or purpose to enable the purchase to be made under a less restrictive procedure.

(B) Annually on July 1, the Commissioner of Education shall adjust the purchase price amounts under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers or its successor.

APPROVED: 04/07/2017