

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2000 SESSION

## CHAPTER 29

*An Act to amend and reenact §§ 11-35, 11-41.2:2 and 11-41.2:4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Public Procurement Act; Design-Build/Construction Management Review Board.*

[H 399]

Approved March 6, 2000

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That §§ 11-35, 11-41.2:2 and 11-41.2:4 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 11-35. Title; purpose; applicability.

A. This chapter may be cited as the Virginia Public Procurement Act.

B. The purpose of this chapter is to enunciate the public policies pertaining to governmental procurement from nongovernmental sources, to include governmental procurement which may or may not result in monetary consideration for either party. This chapter shall apply whether the consideration is monetary or nonmonetary and regardless of whether the public body, the contractor, or some third party is providing the consideration.

C. The provisions of this chapter, however, shall not apply, except as stipulated in the provisions of §§ 11-41.1, 11-41.2:2 through 11-41.2:5, 11-49, 11-51, 11-54, 11-56 through 11-61 and 11-72 through 11-80, to any town with a population of less than 3,500 as determined by the last official United States census.

D. Except to the extent adopted by such governing body, the provisions of this chapter also shall not apply, except as stipulated in subsection E, to any county, city or town whose governing body adopts by ordinance or resolution alternative policies and procedures which are based on competitive principles and which are generally applicable to procurement of goods and services by such governing body and the agencies thereof. This exemption shall be applicable only so long as such policies and procedures, or other policies and procedures meeting the requirements of this section, remain in effect in such county, city or town. Such policies and standards may provide for incentive contracting which offers a contractor whose bid is accepted the opportunity to share in any cost savings realized by the locality when project costs are reduced by such contractor, without affecting project quality, during construction of the project. The fee, if any, charged by the project engineer or architect for determining such cost savings shall be paid as a separate cost and shall not be calculated as part of any cost savings.

Except to the extent adopted by such school board, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply, except as stipulated in subsection E, to any school division whose school board adopts by policy or regulation alternative policies and procedures which are based on competitive principles and which are generally applicable to procurement of goods and services by such school board. This exemption shall be applicable only so long as such policies and procedures, or other policies or procedures meeting the requirements of this section, remain in effect in such school division. This provision shall not exempt any school division from any centralized purchasing ordinance duly adopted by a local governing body.

E. Notwithstanding the exemptions set forth in subsection D, the provisions of §§ 11-41 C, 11-41.1, 11-41.2:2 through 11-41.2:5, 11-46 B, 11-49, 11-51, 11-54, 11-56 through 11-61 and 11-72 through 11-80 shall apply to all counties, cities and school divisions, and to all towns having a population greater than 3,500 in the Commonwealth. The method for procurement of professional services set forth in subdivision 3 a of § 11-37 in the definition of competitive negotiation shall also apply to all counties, cities and school divisions, and to all towns having a population greater than 3,500, where the cost of the professional service is expected to exceed \$30,000 in the aggregate or for the sum of all phases of a contract or project. A school board that makes purchases through its public school foundation or purchases educational technology through its educational technology foundation, either as may be established pursuant to § 22.1-212.2:2 shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter, except, relative to such purchases, the school board shall comply with the provisions of §§ 11-51 and 11-72 through 11-80; however, a school board that makes purchases through its public school foundation established pursuant § 22.1-212.2:2 shall not be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

F. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to those contracts entered into prior to January 1, 1983, which shall continue to be governed by the laws in effect at the time those contracts were executed.

G. To the end that public bodies in the Commonwealth obtain high quality goods and services at reasonable cost, that all procurement procedures be conducted in a fair and impartial manner with avoidance of any impropriety or appearance of impropriety, that all qualified vendors have access to public business and that no offeror be arbitrarily or capriciously excluded, it is the intent of the General Assembly that competition be sought to the maximum feasible degree, that individual public bodies

enjoy broad flexibility in fashioning details of such competition, that the rules governing contract awards be made clear in advance of the competition, that specifications reflect the procurement needs of the purchasing body rather than being drawn to favor a particular vendor, and that the purchaser and vendor freely exchange information concerning what is sought to be procured and what is offered.

H. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, the selection of services by the Virginia Retirement System related to the management, purchase or sale of authorized investments, including but not limited to actuarial services, shall be governed by the standard set forth in § 51.1-124.30 and shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

I. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to procurement of any construction or planning and design services for construction by a Virginia not-for-profit corporation or organization not otherwise specifically exempted when the planning, design or construction is funded by state appropriations greater than \$10,000 unless the Virginia not-for-profit corporation or organization is obligated to conform to procurement procedures which are established by federal statutes or regulations, whether or not those federal procedures are in conformance with the provisions of this chapter.

J. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to items purchased by public institutions of higher education for resale at retail bookstores and similar retail outlets operated by such institution. However, such purchase procedures shall provide for competition where practicable.

K. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to the Virginia Port Authority in the exercise of any of its powers in accordance with Chapter 10 (§ 62.1-128 et seq.) of Title 62.1, provided the Authority implements, by policy or regulation adopted by the Board of Commissioners and approved by the Department of General Services, procedures to ensure fairness and competitiveness in the procurement of goods and services and in the administration of its capital outlay program. This exemption shall be applicable only so long as such policies and procedures meeting the requirements remain in effect.

L. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, the selection of services by the Board of the Virginia Higher Education Tuition Trust Fund related to the operation and administration of the Fund, including, but not limited to, contracts or agreements for the management, purchase, or sale of authorized investments or actuarial, record-keeping, or consulting services, shall be governed by the standard set forth in § 23-38.80 and shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

M. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the selection of services by the University of Virginia related to the management and investment of its endowment funds shall be governed by the Uniform Management of Institutional Funds Act (§ 55-268.1 et seq.) as required by § 23-76.1 and shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

N. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the selection of investment management services by the State Treasurer related to the external management of funds shall be governed by the standard set forth in § 2.1-328.14, and shall be subject to competitive guidelines and policies that are set by the Commonwealth Treasury Board and approved by the Department of General Services; and not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

§ 11-41.2:2. Design-build or construction management contracts for public bodies other than the Commonwealth; eligibility requirements; award of contract; records to be kept.

A. While the competitive sealed bid process remains the preferred method of construction procurement for public bodies in the Commonwealth, any public body other than the Commonwealth may enter into a contract for construction on a fixed price or not-to-exceed price design-build or construction management basis provided the public body complies with the requirements of this section and has obtained the approval of the Design-Build/Construction Management Review Board (the Review Board) pursuant to § 11-41.2:5.

Prior to making a determination as to the use of design-build or construction management for a specific construction project, the public body shall have in its employ or under contract a licensed architect or engineer with professional competence appropriate to the project who shall advise the public body regarding the use of design-build or construction management for that project and who shall assist the public body with the preparation of the Request for Proposal *and the evaluation of such proposals*.

Prior to issuing a Request for Proposal for any design-build or construction management contract for a specific construction project, the public body shall:

1. Have adopted, by ordinance or resolution, written procedures governing the selection, evaluation and award of design-build and construction management contracts. Such procedures shall be consistent with those described in this chapter for the procurement of nonprofessional services through competitive negotiation. Such procedures shall also require Requests for Proposals to include and define the criteria of such construction project in areas such as site plans; floor plans; exterior elevations; basic building envelope materials; fire protection information plans; structural, mechanical (HVAC), and electrical systems; and special telecommunications; and may define such other requirements as the public body determines appropriate for that particular construction project. Except as may otherwise be approved by the Review Board, such procedures for:

- a. Design-build construction projects shall include a two-step competitive negotiation process consistent with the applicable provisions of the Design-Build Selection Procedures of paragraph D of Chapter IX (Special Construction Procedures) of the Capital Outlay Manual of the Commonwealth

developed by the Department of General Services through the Division of Engineering and Buildings. The provisions of the Capital Outlay Manual shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to such procedures for design-build construction projects *Review Board's regulations*.

b. Construction management projects shall include (i) selection procedures consistent with the applicable provisions of the Selection Procedures of paragraphs D and E of Chapter IX (Special Construction Procedures) of the Capital Outlay Manual of the Commonwealth and (ii) required construction management contract terms consistent with applicable provisions of the Required Construction Management Contract Terms of paragraph F of Chapter IX (Special Construction Procedures) of the Capital Outlay Manual. The provisions of the Capital Outlay Manual shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to such procedures for construction management projects *Review Board's regulations*.

2. Have documented in writing that for a specific construction project (i) a design-build or construction management contract is more advantageous than a competitive sealed bid construction contract; (ii) there is a benefit to the public body by using a design-build or construction management contract; and (iii) competitive sealed bidding is not practical or fiscally advantageous.

B. Once approved by the Review Board in accordance with § 11-41.2:5, the public body may *award procure* a design-build or construction management contract *for the specific construction project presented to the Review Board*. Unless otherwise specified in the Request for Proposal, such contract shall be awarded to the fully qualified offeror who submits an acceptable proposal at the lowest cost in response to the Request for Proposal. ~~The provisions of this subsection shall supersede any related provision in the Capital Outlay Manual.~~

C. The public body shall provide information as requested by the Review Board to allow post-project evaluation by the Review Board.

§ 11-41.2:4. Duties of the Design-Build/Construction Management Review Board; transitional provisions relating to regulations.

A. The Review Board shall have the following duties:

1. Review submissions by public bodies other than the Commonwealth of draft or adopted ordinances or resolutions to determine if the process for the selection, evaluation and award of a design-build or construction management contract is in compliance with the provisions of subdivision A 1 of § 11-41.2:2;

2. Determine if the public body has complied with the provisions of § 11-41.2:2 relating to the retention of a licensed architect or engineer;

3. Review the findings and the basis of such findings submitted by the public body to determine if the public body has complied with the requirements of § 11-41.2:2 and that the findings made by the public body pursuant to § 11-41.2:2 are not unreasonable;

4. Develop guidelines relating to the documents and information to be reviewed by the Review Board;

5. Make post-project evaluations of construction projects procured by design-build or construction management contracts entered into by public bodies other than the Commonwealth, including cost and time savings, effectiveness of the selection, evaluation and award of such contracts, and the benefit to the public body; and

6. Report to the General Assembly and the Governor on or before December 1, 1999, *and again on or before December 31, 2002*, concerning the Review Board's evaluation of and findings regarding all design-build and construction management construction undertaken by public bodies other than the Commonwealth since July 1, 1996, and any recommendations relating to future use of design-build or construction management contracts by such public bodies.

B. ~~On or before July 1, 1997~~, The Review Board shall adopt regulations, as it deems appropriate, based on the substantive requirements of Chapter IX of the Capital Outlay Manual of the Commonwealth, for a two-step competitive negotiation process which shall be applied to design-build and construction management projects undertaken by public bodies other than the Commonwealth. For construction management projects, such regulations shall also include applicable provisions of the Required Construction Management Contract Terms of the Capital Outlay Manual. Such regulations shall also allow the Review Board to approve deviations from provisions of the Capital Outlay Manual that it deems appropriate. ~~Such regulations, upon final adoption, shall supersede the provisions of subdivisions A 1 a and A 1 b of § 11-41.2:2. Regulations of the Review Board shall be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.), except that regulations adopted pursuant to this subsection during the Review Board's first year of operation shall not be subject to the Administrative Process Act. Thereafter, all~~ *Such* regulations shall be adopted in accordance with the Administrative Process Act.