





APPROVED BY COMM.  
ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

HOUSE BILL NO. 624

INTRODUCED BY M. WILLIAMS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO INCREASE--FROM  
~~\$10,000--TO~~ AUTHORIZE THE USE OF PUBLIC AUCTIONS FOR A  
PURCHASE NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000 THE-AMOUNT-IN UNDER MUNICIPAL  
PURCHASING LAWS FOR--WHICH--ADVERTISEMENTS--FOR--BIDS--ARE  
GENERALLY-REQUIRED; AND AMENDING SECTION 7-5-4302, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 7-5-4302, MCA, is amended to read:

"7-5-4302. Competitive, advertised bidding required for certain purchase and construction contracts. (1) Except as provided in 7-5-4303 OR [SECTION 2], all contracts for the purchase of any automobile, truck, other vehicle, road machinery, other machinery, apparatus, appliances, or equipment, for any materials or supplies of any kind, or for construction, repair, or maintenance for which must be paid a sum exceeding ~~\$10,000~~ \$25,000 \$10,000 must be let to the lowest responsible bidder after advertisement for bids.

(2) Such advertisement shall be made in the official newspaper of the city or town if there be such official newspaper, and if not, it shall be made in a daily newspaper of general circulation published in the city or town if there be such and, otherwise, by posting in three of the

most public places in the city or town. Such advertisement, if by publication in a newspaper, shall be made once each week for 2 consecutive weeks, and the second publication shall be made not less than 5 days or more than 12 days before the consideration of bids. If such advertisement is made by posting, 15 days must elapse, including the day of posting, between the time of the posting of such advertisement and the day set for considering bids.

(3) The council may postpone action as to any such contract until the next regular meeting after bids are received in response to such advertisement and may reject any and all bids and readvertise as provided herein."

NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. USE OF PUBLIC AUCTION TO MAKE PURCHASE. IN LIEU OF SOLICITING BIDS, THE COUNCIL MAY PURCHASE AT PUBLIC AUCTION ANY VEHICLE, MACHINERY, APPLIANCES, APPARATUS, BUILDING, OR MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES FOR WHICH MUST BE PAID A SUM LESS THAN \$25,000.

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