

1586

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 10, 2011

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Introduced by Sen. OPPENHEIMER -- read twice and ordered printed, and  
when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law and the general municipal law, in  
relation to assignment of contracts by school districts and providing  
for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-  
BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Section 305 of the education law is amended by adding a new  
2     subdivision 42 to read as follows:  
3     42. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COMMISSION A SURVEY ON THE IMPACT OF  
4     EXEMPTING SCHOOL DISTRICTS FROM THE SEPARATE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
5     GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBDIVISION SIX OF  
6     SECTION ONE HUNDRED ONE OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW. SUCH STUDY SHALL  
7     INCLUDE THE IMPACT ON TIMEFRAMES FOR COMPLETING CONSTRUCTION AND  
8     IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, THE OVERALL COSTS OF SUCH PROJECTS AND THE INTEG-  
9     RITY OF THE BIDDING PROCESS. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ISSUE THE RESULTS OF  
10    SUCH SURVEY TO THE GOVERNOR, THE STATE COMPTROLLER, THE TEMPORARY PRESI-  
11    DENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY IN THE FOURTH YEAR  
12    FOLLOWING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBDIVISION.  
13    S 2. Section 101 of the general municipal law is amended by adding a  
14    new subdivision 6 to read as follows:  
15    6. A. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION AND ANY OTHER  
16    LAW TO THE CONTRARY, ANY CONTRACT, SUBCONTRACT, LEASE, GRANT, BOND,  
17    COVENANT, OR OTHER AGREEMENT FOR PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
18    SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SEPARATE SPECIFICATIONS  
19    (REFERRED TO AS THE WICKS LAW).  
20    B. WHERE A SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTS TO PROVIDE FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF A  
21    CONTRACT TO A SINGLE PERSON, FIRM OR CORPORATION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH A  
22    OF THIS SUBDIVISION, SUCH SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY REQUIRE THE APPARENT LOW  
23    BIDDER AND, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE NEXT APPARENT  
24    LOW BIDDER, TO SUBMIT TO THE DISTRICT THE NAMES OF THE BIDDER'S PROPOSED

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 SUBCONTRACTORS FOR THE ELECTRICAL WORK, HEATING, VENTILATING AND AIR  
2 CONDITIONING WORK, AND THE PLUMBING WORK. ONLY ONE PROPOSED SUBCONTRACTOR  
3 SHALL BE NAMED FOR EACH SUCH TRADE. SUCH PROPOSED SUBCONTRACTOR OR  
4 SUBCONTRACTORS MAY BE REJECTED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ON THE BASIS SET  
5 FORTH IN PARAGRAPH E OF THIS SUBDIVISION. UPON REJECTION OF A PROPOSED  
6 SUBCONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTORS, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY REQUIRE THE  
7 APPARENT LOW BIDDER TO SUBMIT AN ALTERNATE PROPOSED SUBCONTRACTOR OR  
8 SUBCONTRACTORS WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS. SHOULD THE APPARENT LOW BIDDER  
9 FAIL TO PROPOSE ALTERNATE SUBCONTRACTORS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE  
10 SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY CONSIDER THE NEXT APPARENT LOW  
11 BIDDER AND SHALL FOLLOW THE SAME PROCEDURE SET FORTH IN THIS PARAGRAPH.  
12 SUCH PROPOSED SUBCONTRACTORS OF THE BIDDER, APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL  
13 DISTRICT SHALL BE USED ON THE WORK FOR WHICH THEY WERE PROPOSED AND  
14 APPROVED, AND THEY SHALL NOT BE CHANGED EXCEPT WITH THE SPECIFIC WRITTEN  
15 APPROVAL OF THE DISTRICT.

16 C. PAYMENT TO THE SUBCONTRACTORS APPROVED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH B OF  
17 THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION  
18 ONE HUNDRED SIX-B OF THIS ARTICLE. IN THE EVENT ANY SUCH SUBCONTRACTOR  
19 IS NOT PAID BY THE CONTRACTOR, THE SUBCONTRACTOR SHALL IMMEDIATELY NOTI-  
20 FY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SUCH FACT.

21 D. WITH THE SUBMISSION OF THE NAMES OF THE PROPOSED SUBCONTRACTORS AS  
22 PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH B OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE BIDDER SHALL SPECIFY  
23 THE AMOUNT TO BE PAID TO EACH SUBCONTRACTOR FOR THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED  
24 BY SUCH SUBCONTRACTOR.

25 E. A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS OR WAIVE ANY INFORMAL-  
26 ITY IN A BID IF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT REASONABLY BELIEVES THAT THE PUBLIC  
27 INTEREST WILL BE PROMOTED THEREBY. A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY REJECT ANY BID  
28 IF, IN THE JUDGMENT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE BUSINESS ORGANIZATION,  
29 RESOURCES, FINANCIAL STANDING, OR EXPERIENCE OF THE BIDDER JUSTIFIES  
30 SUCH REJECTION IN VIEW OF THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED.

31 F. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE NEW YORK  
32 CITY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO TITLE SIX OF  
33 ARTICLE EIGHT OF THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES LAW.

34 S 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after  
35 it shall have become a law, and shall apply to all contracts advertised  
36 or solicited for bid on or after such effective date; provided that this  
37 act shall expire and be deemed repealed 5 years after such effective  
38 date.