

4617

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 5, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. PAULIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Local Governments

AN ACT to amend the local finance law, in relation to the establishment of an electronic public bond sale pilot program for Westchester county; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

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

1 Section 1. The local finance law is amended by adding a new section  
2 58.10 to read as follows:  
3 S 58.10 ELECTRONIC PUBLIC BOND SALE PILOT PROGRAM. A. THERE IS HEREBY  
4 ESTABLISHED AN ELECTRONIC PUBLIC BOND SALE PILOT PROGRAM (REFERRED TO IN  
5 THIS SECTION AS THE "PROGRAM") SOLELY FOR THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER  
6 (REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS THE "COUNTY") AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO  
7 CONDUCT PUBLIC BOND SALES THROUGH ANY BIDDING SERVICES THAT ARE RECOG-  
8 NIZED NATIONALLY BY THE PREDOMINANT USERS OF ELECTRONIC SECURITIES  
9 BIDDING SERVICES AS PROVIDING AN ACCURATE, SECURE AND RELIABLE ON-LINE  
10 BIDDING SYSTEM (REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION AS "A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED  
11 ELECTRONIC SECURITIES BIDDING SERVICE").  
12 B. IF THE FINANCE BOARD OF THE COUNTY HAS AUTHORIZED THE RECEIPT OF  
13 BIDS IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT, SUCH ELECTRONIC BIDS MAY BE SUBMITTED IN THE  
14 FORM OF OPEN AUCTIONS OR CLOSED AUCTIONS CONDUCTED THROUGH A NATIONALLY  
15 RECOGNIZED ELECTRONIC SECURITIES BIDDING SERVICE WHICH SHALL BE DEEMED  
16 TO BE THE DESIGNATED RECEIVING DEVICE. "OPEN AUCTION" SHALL MEAN A BOND  
17 SALE PROCEDURE THAT ALLOWS A BIDDER TO RECEIVE INFORMATION WITH RESPECT  
18 TO THE RANKING OF ITS BIDS PRIOR TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE BIDDING PERIOD  
19 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE COUNTY'S NOTICE OF SUCH BOND  
20 SALE CIRCULATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CHAP-  
21 TER. "CLOSED AUCTION" SHALL MEAN A BOND SALE PROCEDURE THAT DOES NOT  
22 ALLOW A BIDDER TO RECEIVE INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO THE RANKING OF ITS  
23 BIDS PRIOR TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE BIDDING PERIOD. SUCH NOTICE SHALL

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

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1 PROVIDE FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THE BIDDING PERIOD MAY BE EXTENDED AND  
2 THE BASIS FOR DETERMINATION OF THE WINNING BIDDER.

3 C. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION THREE HUNDRED FIVE OF THE  
4 STATE TECHNOLOGY LAW OR ANY OTHER LAW, IF THE NOTICE OF SALE CONTAINS A  
5 PROVISION THAT BIDS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED ELECTRONICALLY IN THE MANNER  
6 PROVIDED IN SUCH NOTICE OF SALE, THE COUNTY SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO  
7 ACCEPT NON-ELECTRONIC BIDS IN ANY FORM.

8 D. THE COUNTY'S CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM AND  
9 SHALL PUBLISH ITS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF ELEC-  
10 TRONIC SECURITIES BIDDING SERVICES ON THE COUNTY'S INTERNET WEBSITE AND  
11 IN A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PUBLICATION USED BY PROFESSIONALS IN THE BOND  
12 MARKET. EXCEPT AS MODIFIED BY THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY PROGRAM SHALL  
13 COMPLY WITH THIS CHAPTER AND ALL OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS, RULES AND REGU-  
14 LATIONS RELATED TO THE SALE OF BONDS.

15 E. THE COUNTY'S CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER SHALL REVIEW THE ELECTRONIC  
16 BIDDING PROCESS TO ENSURE THAT THE BOND SALE WAS COMPLETED IN A TIMELY  
17 FASHION; THE SALE WAS COMPLETED WITHOUT ERRORS; AND THE RESULTS ACHIEVED  
18 WERE FAVORABLE AS COMPARED TO THE MANUAL METHOD CURRENTLY USED BY THE  
19 COUNTY.

20 F. THE COUNTY SHALL CONDUCT EVALUATIONS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM ANNUALLY  
21 WITH A SUMMARY EVALUATION AT THE END OF THE THREE YEAR PILOT PROGRAM.  
22 THE COUNTY WILL SUBMIT THE EVALUATIONS TO THE STATE COMPTROLLER, THE  
23 TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY. SUCH  
24 REPORT SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, ANY DEMONSTRATED EVIDENCE  
25 THAT SALE OF PUBLIC BONDS USING ELECTRONIC AUCTIONS IS COMPARABLE TO THE  
26 COST OF ISSUING PUBLIC BONDS THROUGH THE CURRENT SEALED BID PROCESS,  
27 THAT THE USE OF ELECTRONIC AUCTIONS RESULTED IN AN INCREASED NUMBER OF  
28 BIDDERS AND WHETHER THE RESULTS ACHIEVED FOR PUBLIC BOND SALES CONDUCTED  
29 THROUGH ELECTRONIC AUCTIONS ACHIEVED SAVINGS COMPARED TO THE CURRENT BID  
30 PROCESS USED BY THE COUNTY.

31 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire 3 years  
32 after such effective date, when upon such date the provisions of this  
33 act shall be deemed repealed.