Introduced 27.65.2023Public Hearing Council Action Effective Date 27.65.2023 67.17.2023 67.31.202308.02-7023

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2023 Legislative Session

(

Legislative Day No. 8

Bill No. 34 -2023

Introduced by: Deb Jung

AN ACT <u>altering the composition of the Contract Review Committee</u>; altering a certain provision of law when the County Purchasing Agent may award a contract for supplies and services without competition; requiring the County Purchasing Agent to forward a proposed contract to the <u>members of the</u> County Council for review and comment; requiring providing that the County Purchasing Agent to <u>may</u> review certain comments by the <u>members of the</u> County Council under certain circumstances; and generally relating to purchasing.

Introduced and read first time <u>5445</u> , 2023.	Drdered posted and hearing scheduled. By order
Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title second time at a public hearing on	of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a, 2023. By order
This Bill was read the third time on $July 31$	_, 2023 and Passed, Passed with amendments, Failed By order
Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Execut	ive for approval this 3 day of 5uly, 2023 ata.m./p.m. By order
Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive August 2	, 2023

Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; Text in small capitals indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; <u>Underlining</u> indicates material added by amendment.

1	Section 1. Be it enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the Howard County	
2	Code is hereby amended as follows:	
3	By repealing and reenacting, without amendments:	
4	Title 4 – Contracts, Purchasing and Property.	
5	Subtitle 4. Purchasing.	
6	Section 4.106A. Contract review committee.	
7		
8	By amending:	
9	Title 4 – Contracts, Purchasing and Property.	
10	Subtitle 4. Purchasing.	
11	Section 4.110. Sole-source purchase.	
12		
13	HOWARD COUNTY CODE	
14	Title 4 – Contracts, Purchasing and Property	
15	Subtitle 4. Purchasing	
16	Sec. 4.106A. Contract review committee.	
17	(a) Composition. The Contract Review Committee (CRC) shall be composed of:	
18	(1) The County Chief Administrative Officer or designee; <u>AND</u>	
19	(2) The County Auditor or designee; and	
20	(3) (2) The Director of the Department of Finance or designee.	
21 22	(b) <i>Rules of Procedure</i> . The CRC is authorized to adopt rules of procedure in considering matters within its authority.	
23	(c) <i>Authority</i> . CRC approval by majority <u>A UNANIMOUS</u> vote is required for the following:	
24	(1) A sole-source contract for \$100,000.00 or more;	
25 26	(2) A procurement contract for \$1,000,000.00 or more that receives less than three responsive bids; and	
27	(3) A procurement contract for \$100,000.00 or more where:	
28	(i) No responsive bid was received;	

1	(ii) Time did not permit a re-bid; and
2	(iii) The Office of Procurement and Contract Administration engaged in competitive
3	negotiations with potential vendors and proposes to award a contract upon the
4	completion of negotiations.
5	Sec. 4.110. Sole-source purchase.
6	(a) The County Purchasing Agent may award a contract for supplies and services without
7	competition when:
8	(1) The supplies or services are only available through one source;
9	(2) EXCEPT FOR THE PROPERTY THE SUBJECT OF OR UPON WHICH THE SUPPLIES OR SERVICES
10	ARE TO BE PROVIDED IS OWNED BY A PUBLIC UTILITY OR, RAILROAD CORPORATION, OR
11	THE PROPERTY IS NEEDED TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY;
12	(3) [[There]] THERE are SINGULAR AND unique circumstances OTHER THAN LAND OWNERSHIP
13	that make competitive bidding commercially impracticable; or
14	(3) (4) The purchase is for software support or maintenance or both.
15	(b) Before authorizing a sole source purchase, the County Purchasing Agent shall [[have]]:
16	(1) HAVE a written justification prepared explaining that the specifications for supplies
17	or services are not overly restrictive for the County's needs, that only one supplier of the
18	particular supplies or services exists and that the sole source purchase serves the best
19	interests of the County; and
20	(2) Except For sole source purchases with a contract ceiling total
21	
	<u>projected value of $\$500,000$ or more, except</u> for an emergency purchase under §
22	<u>projected value of \$500,000 or more, except</u> for an emergency purchase under § 4.111 of this subtitle or an expedited procurement under § 4.112 of this
22 23	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	4.111 of this subtitle or an expedited procurement under § 4.112 of this
23	4.111 of this subtitle or an expedited procurement under § 4.112 of this subtitle, <u>or under subsection (a)(2) or (4) of this section</u> forward a copy of the
23 24	4.111 of this subtitle or an expedited procurement under § 4.112 of this subtitle, <u>or under subsection (a)(2) or (4) of this section</u> forward a copy of the proposed contract, a notice of intent to execute, and the written justification
23 24 25	4.111 of this subtitle or an expedited procurement under § 4.112 of this subtitle, <u>or under subsection (a)(2) or (4) of this section</u> forward a copy of the proposed contract, a notice of intent to execute, and the written justification required under paragraph (1) of this subsection to the <u>members of the</u> County

1	(3) For a contract subject to approval by a unanimous vote of the Contract
2	<u>Review committee under section $4.106A(c)$ of this subtitle, provide the County</u>
3	AUDITOR WITH A COPY OF THE PROPOSED CONTRACT, A NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXECUTE.
4	AND THE WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.
5	(c) The Members of the County Council shall forward any comments on the
6	PROPOSED CONTRACT TO THE COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE
7	PLANNED EXECUTION DATE.
8	(d) The County Purchasing agent shall <u>may</u> review any comments by the <u>members</u>
9	OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL AND MAY APPROVE, REVISE, OR DECLINE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONTRACT
10	BASED ON THE COMMENTS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THOSE
11	COMMENTS IN DECIDING TO APPROVE, REVISE, OR DECLINE THE CONTRACT.
12	[[(c)]] (E) Sole source purchases may be obtained by seeking the supplier's best offer through
13	negotiation.
14	[[(d)]] (F) Any sole source contract between the County and any person which contains an option
15	or options to renew which would have the effect of extending the term of the contract
16	beyond three years shall be sent to the County Council for approval by a resolution prior to
17	the beginning of the fourth year of the contract and each subsequent renewal option, if any,
18	thereafter.
19	Section 2. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this Act shall

20 become effective 61 days after its enactment.

Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 34-2023

BY: Deb Jung

Legislative Day 9

Date: July 31, 2023

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment does the following:

- 1. removes the County Auditor from the Contract Review Committee;
- requires the County Purchasing Agent, with certain exceptions, to forward certain information to the County Council before authorizing sole source purchases with a contract ceiling total projected value of \$500,000 or more;
- 3. for a contract subject to approval by unanimous vote of the Contract Review Committee, requires the County Purchasing Agent to provide the County Auditor with a copy of the proposed contract, a notice of intent to execute, and a certain written justification;
- 4. clarifies that "members" of the County Council shall be notified of the proposed process; and
 - 5. provides that the County Purchasing Agent "may" rather than" shall" review any comments by members of the County Council on a proposed contract and take into consideration those comments.)

1 On the title page, in line 1 of the title, before "altering" insert "<u>altering the composition of the</u>

2 <u>Contract Review Committee</u>;". In line 3 of the title, before "County" insert "<u>members of the</u>".

In line 4 of the title, before the second "County", insert "<u>members of the</u>". In line 4 of the title,
strike "requiring" and substitute "<u>providing that</u>". In line 4 of the title, strike "to" and substitute

5

"may".

1	
I certify th	to (B34-2023
passed on	July 31, 20,23
	Michely Harrow
	Council Administrator

1 2	On page 1, in line 18, after "designee;" insert " <u>and</u> "; strike line 19 in its entirety; and in line 20, strike "(3)" and substitute "(2)".	
3		
4	On page 1, in line 23, strike "majority" and substitute " <u>A UNANIMOUS</u> ".	
5	On page 2:	
6	• in line 9, strike "EXCEPT FOR" and substitute " <u>THE</u> ".	
7	• in line 9, after "PROPERTY" insert " <u>IS</u> ".	
8	 in line 9, strike the comma and substitute a semicolon. 	
9	• <u>in line 9:</u>	
10	• after "PROPERTY" insert "THE SUBJECT OF OR UPON WHICH THE SUPPLIES OR SERVICES ARE	
11	TO BE PROVIDED IS";	
12	• <u>strike "OR" and substitute a comma;</u>	
13	• after "CORPORATION,", insert "OR THE PROPERTY IS NEEDED TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY";	
14	and	
15	• strike the comma and substitute a semi-colon.	
16	• in line 10, before "[[There]]", insert "(<u>3</u>)".	
17	• in line 10, strike the brackets and in the same line strike "THERE".	
18	• in line 10, after "are" insert " <u>SINGULAR AND</u> ".	
19	• in line 12, strike "(3)" and substitute " (4) ".	
20	• in line 17, strike "and".	
21	• in line 18, strike "EXCEPT" and substitute "FOR SOLE SOURCE PURCHASES WITH A	
22	<u>CONTRACT CEILING TOTAL PROJECTED VALUE OF \$500,000 OR MORE, EXCEPT</u> ".	
23	• in line 19, after "SUBTITLE," insert "OR UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2) OR (4) OF THIS	
24	SECTION".	
25	• in line 21, strike "THE" and substitute " <u>MEMBERS OF THE</u> ".	
26	• In line 23, strike the period and substitute "; <u>AND</u> ".	
27	• after line 23, insert:	
28	"(3) For a contract subject to approval by a unanimous vote of the Contract	
29	REVIEW COMMITTEE UNDER SECTION 4.106A(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE, PROVIDE THE COUNTY	
30	AUDITOR WITH A COPY OF THE PROPOSED CONTRACT, A NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXECUTE, AND	
31	THE WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.".	
32	• in line 24, strike "THE" and substitute " <u>MEMBERS OF THE</u> ".	
33	• in line 26, strike "SHALL" and substitute " <u>MAY</u> ".	
34	• in line 26, strike "THE" and substitute " <u>MEMBERS OF THE</u> ".	
	2	

strike beginning with "APPROVE" in line 27 down through "<u>COUNCIL</u>" in line 28 and
 substitute "<u>TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THOSE COMMENTS IN DECIDING TO APPROVE</u>,
 <u>REVISE, OR DECLINE THE CONTRACT</u>".

BY: Deb Jung

Legislative Day 9 Date: July 31, 2023

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment changes the phrase "contract ceiling value" to "total projected value" when requiring the County Purchasing Agent, with certain exceptions, to forward specified information to members of the County Council before authorizing sole source purchases with a total projected value of \$500,000 or more.)

- On page 1, in line 5 of the parenthetical, strike "*contract ceiling*" and substitute "*total projected* <u>value</u>".
- 3
- 4 On page 2, in line 15, strike "<u>CONTRACT CEILING</u>" and substitute "<u>TOTAL PROJECTED</u>".

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Amendment 2 to Amendment No. 1 to Council Bill No. 34-2023

BY: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Legislative Day 9 Date: July 31, 2023

Amendment No. 2 to Amendment No. 1

(*This amendment provides for sole source purchasing for property needed to enhance public safety and clarifies what is meant by "property"*.)

- 1 On page 2, strike lines 7 and 8 and substitute:
- 2 "<u>in line 9:</u>

after "PROPERTY" insert "THE SUBJECT OF OR UPON WHICH THE SUPPLIES OR SERVICES ARE TO BE PROVIDED IS";

- 5 strike "OR" and substitute a comma;
- 6 after "CORPORATION,", insert "OR THE PROPERTY IS NEEDED TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY";
 7 and
- 8 <u>strike the comma and substitute a semi-colon.</u>".

I certify this is a true copy of (B34-20 passed on Council Administrator

Amendment 3 to Amendment No. 1 to Council Bill No. 34-2023

BY: Opel Jones

Legislative Day 9

Date: July 31, 2023

Amendment No. 3

(This amendment alters from \$500,000 or more to \$1,000,000 or more the amount of the contract ceiling value for specified sole source purchases.)

- 1 On page 1, in line 5 of the parenthetical, strike "\$500,000" and substitute "<u>\$1,000,000</u>".
- 2
- 3 On page 2, in line 15, strike "<u>\$500,000</u>" and substitute "<u>\$1,000,000</u>".

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I certify this is a true copy of 50 passed on . W Administrator Council

Introduced	07.05.2023
Public Hearing	07.17.2623
Council Action	
Executive Action	
Effective Date	

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2023 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 逽

Bill No. 34 -2023

Introduced by: Deb Jung

AN ACT altering a certain provision of law when the County Purchasing Agent may award a contract for supplies and services without competition; requiring the County Purchasing Agent to forward a proposed contract to the County Council for review and comment; requiring the County Purchasing Agent to review certain comments by the County Council under certain circumstances; and generally relating to purchasing.

Introduced and read first time <u>July 5</u> , 2023 c	Ordered poste By order	d and hearing scheduled Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator
Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title second time at a public hearing on	_, 2023.	g been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a
This Bill was read the third time on		Passed, Passed with amendments, Failed
Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Execut		val thisday of, 2023 ata.m./p.m.
Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive		Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator
Approved veloce by the county Extentive		Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; Text in small capitals indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; <u>Underlining</u> indicates material added by amendment.

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21	(b) Rules of Procedure. The CRO is authorized to adopt rules of procedure in considering
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23	(c) <i>Authority</i> . CRC approval by majority vote is required for the following:
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26	responsive bids; and
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4	completion of negotiations.
5	Sec. 4.110. Sole-source purchase.
6	(a) The County Purchasing Agent may award a contract for supplies and services without
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8	(1) The supplies or services are only available through one source;
9	(2) EXCEPT FOR PROPERTY OWNED BY A PUBLIC UTILITY OR RAILROAD CORPORATION,
10	[[There]] THERE are unique circumstances OTHER THAN LAND OWNERSHIP that make
11	competitive bidding commercially impracticable; or
12	(3) The purchase is for software support or maintenance or both.
13	(b) Before authorizing a sole source purchase, the County Purchasing Agent shall [[have]]:
14	(1) HAVE a written justification prepared explaining that the specifications for supplies
15	or services are not overly restrictive for the County's needs, that only one supplier of the
16	particular supplies or services exists and that the sole source purchase serves the best
17	interests of the County; and
18	(2) Except for an emergency purchase under § 4.111 of this subtitle or an
19	EXPEDITED PROCUREMENT UNDER § 4.112 of this subtitle, forward a COPY of the
20	PROPOSED CONTRACT, A NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXECUTE, AND THE WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION
21	REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) of this subsection to the County Council for
22	REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CONTRACT AT LEAST EIGHT WEEKS PRIOR TO THE
23	PLANNED EXECUTION DATE.
24	(C) THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL FORWARD ANY COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED CONTRACT TO
25	THE COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT AT LEAST TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE PLANNED EXECUTION DATE.
26	(D) THE COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT SHALL REVIEW ANY COMMENTS BY THE COUNTY
27	COUNCIL AND MAY APPROVE, REVISE, OR DECLINE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONTRACT BASED ON THE
28	COMMENTS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

- [[(c)]] (E) Sole source purchases may be obtained by seeking the supplier's best offer through
 negotiation.
- 3 [[(d)]] (F) Any sole source contract between the County and any person which contains an option
- 4 or options to renew which would have the effect of extending the term of the contract
- 5 beyond three years shall be sent to the County Council for approval by a resolution prior to
- 6 the beginning of the fourth year of the contract and each subsequent renewal option, if any,
- 7 thereafter.
- 8 Section 2. Be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this Act shall
 9 become effective 61 days after its enactment.

Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 34-2023

BY: Deb Jung



Amendment No. 1

(This amendment does the following:

- 1. removes the County Auditor from the Contract Review Committee;
- 2. requires the County Purchasing Agent, with certain exceptions, to forward certain information to the County Council before authorizing sole source purchases with a contract ceiling of \$500,000 or more;
- 3. for a contract subject to approval by manimous vote of the Contract Review Committee, requires the County Purchasing Agent to provide the County Auditor with a copy of the proposed contract, a notice of intent to execute, and a certain written justification;
- 4. clarifies that "members" of the County Council shall be notified of the proposed process;

and

5. provides that the County Purchasing Agent "may" rather than" shall" review any comments by members of the County Council on a proposed contract and take into consideration those comments.)

- In line 4 of the title, before the second "County", insert "<u>members of the</u>". In line 4 of the title,
 strike "requiring" and substitute "<u>providing that</u>". In line 4 of the title, strike "to" and substitute
- 5

"<u>may</u>".

¹ On the title page, in line 1 of the title, before "altering" insert "altering the composition of the

^{2 &}lt;u>Contract Review Committee:</u>". In line 3 of the title, before "County" insert "<u>members of the</u>".

1	On page 1, in line 18, after "designee;" insert "and"; strike line 19 in its entirety; and in line 20,
2	strike "(3)" and substitute "(2)".
3	
4	On page 1, in line 23, strike "majority" and substitute " <u>A UNANIMORS</u> ".
5	On page 2:
6	• in line 9, strike "EXCEPT FOR" and substitute " <u>THE</u> ".
7	• in line 9, after "PROPERTY" insert " <u>IS</u> ".
8	• in line 9, strike the comma and substitute a semicolog
9	• in line 10, before "[[There]]", insert " <u>(3)</u> ".
10	• in line 10, strike the brackets and in the same line strike "THERE".
11	• in line 10, after "are" insert " <u>SINGULAR AND</u> ".
12	• in line 12, strike "(3)" and substitute " $(\underline{4})$ ".
13	• in line 17, strike "and".
14	• in line 18, strike "EXCEPT" and substitute "For SOLE SOURCE PURCHASES WITH A
15	CONTRACT CEILING VALUE OF \$500,000 OR MORE, EXCEPT".
16	• in line 19, after "SUBTITLE," insert "OR UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2) OR (4) OF THIS
17	SECTION".
18	• in line 21, strike "THE" and substitute "MEMBERS OF THE".
19	• In line 23, strike the period and substitute": <u>AND</u> ".
20	• after line 23, insert:
21	"(3) FOR A CONTRACT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE CONTRACT
22	Review committee under section 4.10 A(c) of this subtitle, provide the County
23	AUDITOR WITH A COPY OF THE PROPOSED CONTRACT, A NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXECUTE, AND
24	<u>THE WRITTEN JUSTIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.</u> ".
25	• in line 24, strike "THE" and substitute " <u>MEMBERS OF THE</u> ".
26	• in line 26, strike "SHALL" and substitute " <u>MAY</u> ".
27	• in line 26, strike "THE" and substitute " <u>MEMBERS OF THE</u> ".
28	• strike beginning with "APPROVE" In line 27 down through " <u>COUNCIL</u> " in line 28 and
29	substitute "TAKE INTO CONSIDER TION THOSE COMMENTS IN DECIDING TO APPROVE,
30	<u>REVISE, OR DECLINE THE CONTRACT</u> ".

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on

2023.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on ______, 2023.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on ______, 2023.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on ______, 2023.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on ______, 2023.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on ______, 2023.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council