AN ACT concerning local government.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by changing Section 5-1022 as follows:

(55 ILCS 5/5-1022) (from Ch. 34, par. 5-1022) Sec. 5-1022. Competitive bids.

- (a) Any purchase by a county with fewer than 2,000,000 inhabitants of services, materials, equipment or supplies in excess of \$20,000 \$10,000, other than professional services, shall be contracted for in one of the following ways:
 - (1) by a contract let to the lowest responsible bidder after advertising for bids in a newspaper published within the county or, if no newspaper is published within the county, then a newspaper having general circulation within the county; or
 - (2) by a contract let without advertising for bids in the case of an emergency if authorized by the county board.
- (b) In determining the lowest responsible bidder, the county board shall take into consideration the qualities of the articles supplied; their conformity with the specifications; their suitability to the requirements of the county, availability of support services; uniqueness of the service, materials, equipment, or supplies as it applies to networked, integrated computer systems; compatibility to existing equipment; and the delivery terms. The county board also may take into consideration whether a bidder is a private enterprise or a State-controlled enterprise and, notwithstanding any other provision of this Section or a lower bid by a State-controlled enterprise, may let a

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contract to the lowest responsible bidder that is a private enterprise.

- (c) This Section does not apply to contracts by a county with the federal government or to purchases of used equipment, purchases at auction or similar transactions which by their very nature are not suitable to competitive bids, pursuant to an ordinance adopted by the county board.
- (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, a county may let without advertising for bids in the case of purchases and contracts, when individual orders do not exceed \$25,000, for the use, purchase, delivery, movement, or installation of data processing equipment, software, or services and telecommunications and inter-connect equipment, software, and services.

(Source: P.A. 90-517, eff. 8-22-97.)