

Act No. 2008-379
Changes to Competitive Bid Law
(House Bill 442 companion to Senate Bill 364)

- **Increase the minimum amount for which competitive bidding is required from \$7,500 to \$15,000, effective August 1, 2008.**
- **Allow school boards to establish a local preference zone that can extend beyond the legal boundaries or jurisdiction of the local board, effective August 1, 2008.**
- **Allow school boards the option of requiring a bid bond, effective August 1, 2008.**
- **Exempt from competitive bidding those purchases made by boards under joint purchasing agreements with agencies in non-adjointing counties, effective August 1, 2008.**

Current law has been interpreted to prohibit school boards from entering into a joint purchasing agreement with a regional purchasing consortium that contains agencies in counties that are not contiguous. This bill corrects the language to allow school boards to enter into regional purchasing consortiums with county and city governments to purchase diesel fuel and other items through competitive bids.
- **Utilize internet bidding by reverse auction for sealed bids effective January 1, 2009.**
- **Allow the consideration of life cycle costs in the competitive bidding of personal property where those costs can be reasonably ascertained from industry recognized and accepted sources effective January 1, 2009.**
- **Allow the local board to award the remaining portion of a contract to the second lowest bidder when the lowest responsible bidder cannot comply with the contract terms.**