

Chapter 279

Public Contracts and Purchasing

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**PURCHASING AND BIDS AND BIDDING
IN GENERAL**

279.008 ORS 279.010 to 279.054 not affected by certain provisions. Nothing in ORS 279.710 to 279.746, 282.050, 291.004, 291.014, 291.652 to 291.664 or 291.702 to 291.720 is intended to affect the provisions of ORS 279.010 to 279.054.

279.010 Definitions. When used in ORS 279.010 to 279.028, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Person" means and includes individuals, copartnerships, associations, corporations and joint stock companies, and lessees, trustees or receivers appointed by any court

(2) "Public officer" includes public officers, commissions, boards, committees, departments or other public representatives of the state, county, city, town, district or other public body charged by law with the duty of either receiving bids for or awarding contracts for the construction of any public improvements.

(3) "Public improvement" means an improvement upon any real estate belonging to or in anywise to be used by the state, county, city, town, district or other municipal subdivision of the state.

(4) "Public contract" means any contract for public improvements, proposals for the construction of which are required to be advertised for by law

(5) "Form for bid proposals" means the printed, typewritten or written form which is officially sanctioned by the public officer for the submission of bids for a public improvement under public contract.

(6) "Prospective bidder" means a person who makes an application for any plans for any public improvements for the purpose of bidding on such work.

279.012 Qualification of bidders. Subject to subsection (2) of ORS 279.014, bids for all contracts for public improvement, estimated at a total cost of \$10,000 or over, by the state, county, city, town, district, board or other public body, shall be received only from persons who have been qualified by the public officer as prescribed in ORS 279.014 to 279.018 or by the appeal board as prescribed in ORS 279.024.

279.014 Statement or qualification by bidder required before delivery of bid proposals. (1) Every public officer charged with the

duty of receiving bids for and of awarding any public contract for public improvement, estimated at a total cost of \$10,000 or over, shall, before delivering any form for bid proposals pertaining thereto to any person, require such person to submit a full and complete statement as described in ORS 279.016. The statement, with any subsequent amendments, shall be filed with the public officer not later than 10 days prior to the time set for opening bids.

(2) No bid shall be received from any person who has not submitted the sworn statement described in ORS 279.016, but a prospective bidder who has once qualified to the satisfaction of the public officer and wishes to become a bidder on subsequent public improvements under the jurisdiction of the public officer to whose satisfaction the prospective bidder has qualified under ORS 279.010 to 279.026 need not separately qualify for each public contract for public improvement unless the public officer so requires.

(3) A prospective bidder applying for a bid proposal within five days prior to the time set for opening bids may, before being furnished with a bid proposal blank, be required to qualify under ORS 279.016 and 279.018 to the satisfaction of the public officer. In such case the decision of the public officer with respect to the qualifications of the prospective bidder is final.

279.016 Execution and contents of statement; restriction on disclosure of statement.

(1) The statement required by ORS 279.014 shall fully and completely state:

(a) The address within this state of the prospective bidder.

(b) His financial ability.

(c) His equipment.

(d) His experience in construction of public improvements.

(e) Such other matters as the public officer may require for determination for the benefit of the public in the performance of any contemplated public improvement.

(2) The statement and amendments thereof shall be in writing on a standard form of questionnaire as adopted for use, and furnished by, the public officer. The statement shall be sworn to before an officer authorized by law to administer oaths.

(3) No statements shall be disclosed except upon written order of the person furnishing the same or an appropriate order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

279.018 Examination of statement; investigation of bidders; notice of determination. At least eight days prior to the time set for opening bids, the public officer in charge of letting the public contract shall.

(1) Examine all statements submitted pursuant to ORS 279.014

(2) Make such investigation by personal interview with the prospective bidders or in such other manner as in the discretion of the public officer appears necessary

(3) Notify each person submitting a statement, by registered mail at the address within this state designated by such person in the statement, whether or not such person is qualified for the public improvement required and whether or not a bid will be received from such person

279.020 Notice of intention to appeal; notification of board of appeal. Subject to subsection (3) of ORS 279.014, a disqualified prospective bidder may, within 24 hours after delivery of the notice required by ORS 279.018 at such address, notify the public officer in writing or by telegraph that the disqualified prospective bidder desires to appeal from the findings of the public officer with respect to his disqualification. Immediately on receipt of such notice the public officer shall notify the board of appeal

279.022 Board of appeal. (1) The board of appeal shall consist of:

(a) The State Treasurer, Secretary of State and Commissioner of Labor, if the public work contemplated is state work.

(b) A circuit judge of the district, the county treasurer and the county sheriff of the county in which the proposed public work is to be done, if the public work is work of a county, city, town, district or other municipality; but in cities with a population of over 100,000, an appeal from the decision of the public officer in connection with qualifications for bidding on improvements to be made by such city shall be referred to an appeal board consisting of the city attorney, city auditor and the city treasurer.

(2) The officials constituting such appeal boards shall discharge the duties imposed upon them as members of the board of appeal.

(3) The absence of a member of the appeal board shall not disqualify the other two members from passing upon the matters submitted to them.

279.024 Proceedings of appeal board. When notified under ORS 279.020, the board of appeal shall forthwith, and at least three days prior to the day set for opening bids for the public improvement, hold a hearing on the appeal. The appeal shall place at issue before the board anew the responsibility and qualifications of all persons who have filed statements. At the hearing any prospective bidder who has filed a statement shall be entitled to be heard and submit any additional information to the board upon the matters and subjects covered by the sworn statement. Thereafter the board shall review the matter of the responsibility of all disqualified prospective bidders who have filed statements, considering both the statements and the additional information given at the hearing, and shall prepare and certify to the public officer a list of those of the disqualified prospective bidders who are found qualified to perform the work by the board or a majority of the board. The determination of the board shall be final. The board of appeal shall immediately notify all disqualified prospective bidders of the action of the board by registered mail as required by subsection (3) of ORS 279.018.

279.026 Rejection of part of bids. When any person is low bidder on two or more public contracts for the construction of public improvements and none of such public contracts has been awarded, the public officer charged with the duty of awarding such contracts may award to such person one or more of such contracts and may reject such person's bid or bids for the other public improvements for which such person was low bidder if such person, in the opinion of the public officer, is not qualified to undertake and to perform fully in a satisfactory manner the public improvements contemplated under all such public contracts bid upon by such person

279.028 Emergency work excepted from ORS 279.010 to 279.026. ORS 279.010 to 279.026 do not apply to work deemed by the public officer as an emergency

279.030 Option as to security to be furnished with bid. If a person, copartnership or corporation is bidding for a contract to do work or furnish material or supplies for the state, county, school district or municipality and is required to furnish and file security with the bid, the bidder may, at his option, file either a certified check or a

surety bond as such security to such an amount as may be specified in the notice or advertisement calling for such bids. The certified check or bidders' bond shall not exceed 10 percent of the amount bid for contract.

279.032 Conspiracy or collusion tending to lessen competition in letting public contracts and paying or offering to pay to obtain public contracts prohibited. (1) It shall be unlawful for any person bidding upon or entering into a public contract, or agent of such person, to enter into any conspiracy or collusion with any person which tends to or does lessen or destroy free competition in the letting of such contract, or to pay or agree to pay to any other bidder or to any public officer, directly or indirectly, any money or thing of value in order to obtain such contract; provided that any one or more of such persons shall have done any act to effect the object of the conspiracy or collusion.

(2) As used in this section, "public contract" means any contract with the state, or with a county, city, town, school district, road district or other public corporation, or quasi-public corporation, or with a public officer in this state.

279.034 Witnesses' privileges withheld; exemption from prosecution except for perjury. In any action in any court wherein the violation of ORS 279.032 is at issue, no witness shall be privileged from testifying to any matter, or from producing any books, papers, or letters on the ground that the same might or would tend to render such witness criminally liable, but such witness shall not be prosecuted for any offense whatever growing out of or connected with the matters and things so testified to or produced by him. Such witness shall not be exempt from prosecution for perjury committed in so testifying.

279.036 Mandatory preference of state products in purchase of materials and supplies. (1) Any person, committee, board, officer or any other person charged with the purchase, or permitted or authorized to purchase supplies, goods, wares, merchandise, manufactures or produce for the use of the state or any of its institutions or offices, or for the use of any county, city, town or school district, or of any of their institutions or offices, shall always, price, fitness and quality being equal, prefer supplies, goods,

wares, merchandise, manufactures or produce that has been grown, manufactured or produced in this state and shall next prefer such as have been partially manufactured, grown or produced in this state.

(2) All state, county, city, town or school district officers, all boards, commissions or other persons charged with advertising for any such supplies shall state in their advertisements that such preferences will be made.

279.038 Use of Oregon construction products mandatory; limitation on extra price. (1) Any board, commission, officer, employe or other person or persons acting for the state or for any county, municipality or taxing district, whose duty it is or may be to purchase or contract for the use of any nonmetallic mineral construction material or materials, except cement, sand, gravel, crushed rock and plaster, to be used in the construction of public buildings or other structures on behalf of the state, county, municipality or taxing district, shall select, purchase or contract for the use of such materials as are produced or manufactured in Oregon when the prices quoted for the same are not more than five percent in excess of the lowest bids or prices quoted for the same materials produced or manufactured elsewhere, quality and service considered.

(2) With respect to such common building materials as cement, sand, crushed rock, gravel, plaster, etc., for such buildings and structures, the contractor shall be required to use Oregon produced or manufactured materials in all cases where the bid prices of such materials are no greater than those of similar materials produced or manufactured outside of Oregon.

279.040 Specifications to require alternate bids. If the building or construction materials referred to in subsection (1) of ORS 279.038 are or can be produced in Oregon, the architect or other person preparing the specifications shall require that all bidders shall submit alternate bids covering the use of such Oregon materials and the use of materials from outside the state.

279.042 Limitation on application of ORS 279.038 and 279.040. ORS 279.038 and 279.040 do not apply in any case where the provisions of those sections interfere or conflict with federal statutes or regulations

279.044 Discretionary preference to Oregon persons, concerns, materials and supplies. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3) of this section, all county courts, boards of county commissioners, school boards, city councils, and all other public officers, boards and commissions that are charged with the letting of contracts for public work, with the construction of public bridges, buildings and other structures, or with the purchase of materials and supplies for any public use may, in their discretion, give such contracts and employment to, and purchase such materials and supplies from, persons and concerns manufacturing such materials and supplies in Oregon.

(2) The officers, boards, councils and commissions may give preference under subsection (1) of this section only if:

(a) The bids of the persons or concerns, or the prices quoted by them, do not exceed by more than five percent the lowest bid or prices quoted by persons and concerns manufacturing the same elsewhere; and

(b) In their opinion the public good will in any way be served thereby.

(3) No goods and material shall be entitled to preference under subsection (1) of this section in which the major portion of the work of manufacturing such goods and material was done outside Oregon.

279.046 Advertisements for bids for specific brands or patented appliances regulated. In any advertisement for supplies, goods, wares, merchandise, manufactures or produce for the use of the state or any of its institutions or offices, or for the use of any county, city, town or school district, or of any of their institutions or offices, no bid shall be asked for any articles of a specific brand or mark, nor any patent apparatus or appliances, when such requirement would prevent proper competition on the part of dealers in other articles of equal value, utility, or merit.

279.048 Definitions. As used in ORS 279.050 to 279.054, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Subdivision" means any county, municipal corporation, quasi-municipal corporation, or civil or political subdivision of this state.

(2) "Property" means equipment, supplies, merchandise, materials or other property, real or personal.

279.050 Purchase of property from Federal Government. The state and any subdivision, through the officer, board, department or commission authorized to make purchases in its behalf, may contract with the United States or with any agency thereof for the purchase of any property without soliciting or receiving competitive offers thereof by or pursuant to public advertisement therefor or otherwise and without delivery of such property prior to payment therefor.

279.052 Designation of agent of subdivision to enter bids; authorization to make payment. The governing body of any subdivision, by appropriate resolution or order, may designate its duly appointed or elected purchasing agent or representative to enter a bid or bids in its behalf at any sale of property owned and offered for sale by the United States or by any agency thereof, and may authorize its agent or representative to make such payment as is required in connection with the bidding.

279.054 Provisions of laws, charters, etc., superseded. The provisions of all laws, charters, ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations applying to the state or to any subdivision, appertaining to purchases of property by the state or by any subdivision, are superseded in so far as they conflict with ORS 279.048 to 279.054.

279.056 to 279.300 [Reserved for expansion]

PUBLIC CONTRACTS GENERALLY

279.310 Definitions. When used in ORS 279.310 to 279.320, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Public contract" means a contract made with the state, county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation or subdivision thereof.

(2) "Person" includes the State Industrial Accident Commission and the State Tax Commission. [Amended by 1953 c.131 §3]

279.312 Conditions of public contracts concerning payment of laborers and materialmen, contributions to Industrial Accident Fund, liens, and withholding taxes. Every public contract shall contain a condition that the contractor shall:

(1) Make payment promptly, as due, to all persons supplying to such contractor labor or material for the prosecution of the work provided for in such contract

(2) Pay all contributions or amounts due the State Industrial Accident Fund from such contractor or subcontractor incurred in the performance of the contract

(3) Not permit any lien or claim to be filed or prosecuted against the state, county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation or subdivision thereof, on account of any labor or material furnished.

(4) Pay to the State Tax Commission all sums withheld from employees pursuant to ORS 315.575 or 316.575. [Amended by 1953 c.131 §3]

279.314 Condition concerning payment of claims by public officers. (1) Every public contract shall also contain a clause or condition that, if the contractor fails, neglects or refuses to make prompt payment of any claim for labor or services furnished to the contractor or a subcontractor by any person in connection with the public contract as such claim becomes due, the proper officer or officers representing the state, county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation or subdivision thereof, as the case may be, may pay such claim to the person furnishing the labor or services and charge the amount of the payment against funds due or to become due the contractor by reason of his contract

(2) The payment of a claim in the manner authorized in this section shall not relieve the contractor or his surety from his or its obligation with respect to any unpaid claims

279.316 Condition concerning hours of labor. Every public contract shall also contain a condition that no person shall be employed for more than eight hours in any one day, or 40 hours in any one week,*except in cases of necessity, emergency, or where the public policy absolutely requires it, and in such cases the laborer shall be paid at least time and a half pay for all overtime in excess of eight hours a day and for work performed on Saturday and on legal holidays

279.318 Condition concerning forfeiture of contract. Every public contract shall also contain a condition that the contract may be canceled at the election of the state, county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation, or other subdivision concerned, for any wilful failure or refusal on the part of the contractor to faithfully perform the contract according to its terms

279.320 Condition concerning payment for medical care and attention to employees. Every public contract shall also contain a condition that the contractor shall promptly, as due, make payment to any person, partnership, association or corporation, furnishing medical, surgical and hospital care or other needed care and attention, incident to sickness or injury, to the employees of such contractor, of all sums which the contractor agrees to pay for such services and all moneys and sums which the contractor.

(1) May or shall have deducted from the wages of his employees for such services pursuant to the terms of ORS 655.010 to 655.160, and any contract entered into pursuant thereto; or

(2) Collected or deducted from the wages of his employees pursuant to any law, contract or agreement for the purpose of providing or paying for such service.

279.322 [Reserved for expansion]

279.324 Definitions. As used in ORS 279.324 to 279.332:

(1) "Public agency" means any department or agency of the State of Oregon or any of its subdivisions

(2) "Contract" means any public works being performed by contract.

279.326 Termination of contract because of national emergency. If in the event of a national emergency any public works is stopped, directly or indirectly, because of the freezing or diversion of materials, equipment or labor, as the result of an order or a proclamation of the President of the United States, or of an order of any federal authority, and the circumstances or conditions are such that it is impracticable within a reasonable time to proceed with a substantial portion of the public works, then the public agency and the contractor may, by written agreement, terminate the contract

279.328 Agreement to terminate contract. The agreement to terminate the contract pursuant to ORS 279.326 shall include the terms and conditions of the termination of the contract and provision for the payment of compensation, if any, which either party shall pay to the other, or to any other parties.

279.330 Determining compensation to contractor. The compensation paid to the contractor pursuant to ORS 279.328 shall be

determined on the basis of the reasonable value of the work done, including preparatory work; but the contract price shall control in the case of any fully completed separate item or portion of the work for which there is a separate or unit contract price. The parties may in any other case adopt the contract price as the reasonable value of the work done or any portion thereof.

279.332 Specifications may authorize termination in case of national emergency. Any public agency may provide in the specifications for any public works contract detailed provisions under which the contractor shall be entitled, as a matter of right, to termination of the contract on account of a national emergency

279.334 Maximum hours of labor on public contracts. In all cases where labor is employed by the state, county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation, or subdivision, through a contractor, no person shall be required or permitted to labor more than eight hours in any one day, or 40 hours in any one week, except in cases of necessity, emergency, or where the public policy absolutely requires it, in which event, the person or persons so employed for excessive hours shall receive at least time and a half pay for all overtime in excess of eight hours a day, and for work performed on Saturday and on legal holidays

279.336 Time limitation on claim for overtime; posting of circular by contractor. Where labor is employed by the state, county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation or subdivision, through another as a contractor, any workman employed by the contractor shall be foreclosed from the right to collect for any overtime provided in ORS 279 334 unless a claim for payment is filed with the contractor within 90 days from the completion of the contract, providing the contractor has

(1) Caused a circular clearly printed in blackface pica type and containing a copy of this section to be posted in a prominent place alongside the door of the timekeeper's office or in a similar place which is readily available and freely visible to any or all men employed on the work

(2) Maintained such circular continuously posted from the inception to the completion of the contract on which workmen are or have been employed.

279.338 Length of day's labor on public works. (1) Eight hours shall constitute a day's labor in all cases where the state, county, school district, or any municipality, municipal corporation or subdivision is the employer of labor, either directly or indirectly, by contract with another

(2) This section does not apply to the employment by any contractor of work for the state, county, school district, or any municipality, municipal corporation, or subdivision thereof, of foremen, watchmen and timekeepers paid on monthly rate

279.340 Overtime for labor directly employed by counties, municipalities, municipal corporations, school districts and subdivisions. Labor directly employed by a county, municipality, municipal corporation, school district or subdivision shall be allowed overtime as follows

(1) In counties of less than 300,000 population, overtime shall be allowed in such manner as may be determined by the county, municipality, municipal corporation, school district or subdivision, but such compensation shall not be less than time and a half off for employment in excess of eight hours in any one day or 44 hours in any one week. Any county, municipality, municipal corporation, school district or subdivision regularly working employes less than 44 hours per week may compensate for overtime worked in excess of the regularly scheduled work time.

(2) In counties of more than 300,000 population, overtime shall be compensated, if budgeted funds for such purpose are available, for overtime worked in excess of eight hours in any one day or 40 hours in any one week, at not less than one and one-half times the regular rate of such employment. If budgeted funds are not available for the payment of overtime, such overtime shall be allowed in compensatory time off at not less than time and a half for employment in excess of eight hours in any one day or 40 hours in any one week

279.342 Exceptions to ORS 279.340. The provisions of ORS 279 340 relating to pay for overtime shall not apply to

(1) Labor employed in forest fire fighting

(2) Employes of any irrigation system district actually engaged in the distribution of water for irrigation or domestic use

(3) Fire or police protection personnel employed by any fire or police department of any municipal corporation

(4) Employees of third class school districts. [Amended by 1953 c 579 §3]

279.344 [Repealed by 1953 c 577 §2]

279.346 [Repealed by 1953 c 577 §2]

279.348 to 279.500 [Reserved for expansion]

BONDS; ACTIONS ON BOND

279.510 Faithful performance bond for public contract. For every contract made with the state, county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation or subdivision thereof, a penal bond with good and sufficient sureties shall be required of the contractor to secure faithful performance of all the usual or particular obligations of such contract, including the conditions listed in ORS 279 310 to 279 320

279.512 Action on faithful performance bond. Any person who has supplied to any contractor labor or material for the prosecution of the work provided for in the contract referred to in ORS 279.510, on making application to the proper officer in charge of such contract, together with a showing under oath what relation such person bears to such contract, or its performance, shall receive a certified copy of the contract and bond, and may institute an action within two years after supplying such labor or materials, in the circuit court of this state or the federal court of this district, and not otherwise, against the contractor and sureties on his own relation, but in the name of the State of Oregon, or the county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation or other subdivision concerned, and may prosecute the action to final judgment and execution, for his own use and benefit, as the fact may appear.

279.514 Assignment of claim and action on behalf of assignee. All claims and accounts for the furnishing or supplying of labor and material, or either, to any contractor for the prosecution of the work provided for in the contract referred to in ORS 279 510 shall be assignable by instrument in writing and subscribed by the person furnishing or supplying such labor or material. The assignee shall have the same right and remedy against the contractor and the surety on the bond as is given to or vested in

such laborer or materialmen by ORS 279 512. Upon application to the proper officer in charge of such contract, together with a proper showing under oath what relation the assignor bears or bore to such contract or its performance, and the facts of the assignment, such assignee shall receive a certified copy of such contract and bond and may institute an action within two years after supplying such labor or materials in the circuit court of this state or the federal court of this district, and not otherwise, against the contractor and surety or sureties, on his or its relation, but in the name of the State of Oregon, or the county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation or other subdivision concerned, and may prosecute the action to final judgment and execution for his or its own use and benefit, as the fact may appear

279.516 Recovery of attorney fees. In any action under ORS 279.512 or 279 514, the prevailing party shall recover such attorney's fees therein as the court shall adjudge reasonable

279.518 Preference of labor and material liens. All labor and material liens shall have preference and be superior to all other liens and claims of whatsoever kind or nature created by ORS 279 310 to 279 318 and 279 510 to 279 516

279.520 Bond of construction contractor. Any person entering into a formal contract with the state, municipality, county or school district for the construction of any building, or the prosecution and completion of any work, or for repairs upon any building or work, shall be required before commencing such work to execute the usual penal bond with good and sufficient sureties, with the additional obligations that such contractor shall promptly make payments to all persons supplying him labor or materials for any prosecution of the work provided for in such contract, all contributions or amounts due the State Industrial Accident Fund, all contributions or amounts due the State Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund from such contractor or subcontractor incurred in the performance of the contract and all sums of money withheld from the employes and payable to the State Tax Commission pursuant to ORS 315 575 or 316 575. [Amended by 1953 c 131 §3]

279.522 Action on construction contractor's bond. Any person making application

therefor and furnishing an affidavit as prescribed in ORS 279.524 shall be furnished with a certified copy of the contract and bond, upon which the person supplying the labor or materials shall have a right of action and may bring suit in the name of the State of Oregon, or any county, municipality or school district, for his use and benefit, against the contractor and sureties and may prosecute the same to final judgment and execution.

279.524 Affidavit of claimant. (1) The affidavit referred to in ORS 279.522 shall be furnished to the proper officer of the state, county, municipality or school district, under whose direction the work is being or has been prosecuted.

(2) The affidavit shall contain a statement that:

(a) Labor or materials for the prosecution of the work provided for in the contract have been supplied by the person making the application or, if the claim is not for labor or material, a statement disclosing the nature of the claim

(b) Payment for the claim has not been made

279.526 Notice of claim must be filed. No person claiming to have supplied labor or materials for the prosecution of the work provided for in the contract or claiming moneys due the State Industrial Accident Fund or the State Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund in the prosecution of the contract or claiming moneys due the State Tax Commission shall have a right of action on the contractor's bond unless such person has presented and filed a notice of claim, as prescribed in ORS 279.528, prior to the expiration of six months immediately following the completion of the contract with an acceptance of the work by the affirmative action of the state, municipality, county or school district. [Amended by 1953 c.131 §3]

279.528 Execution and contents of notice of claim; notice a public record. (1) The notice of claim required by ORS 279.526 shall be presented to and filed with the Secretary of State or the clerk or auditor of the municipality, county or school district

(2) The notice shall be in writing substantially as follows:

To (here insert the name of the state, county or municipality or other public body, city, town or district)

Notice hereby is given that the undersigned (here insert the name of the laborer or claimant) has a claim for (here insert a brief mention or description of the labor, materials or provisions performed or furnished) in the sum of (here insert the amount) dollars against the bond taken from (here insert the name of the principal and surety or sureties upon the bond) for the work of (here insert a brief mention or description of the work concerning which the bond was taken).

.....(here to be signed)

(3) The notice shall be signed by the person or corporation making the claim or giving the notice.

(4) The notice, after being presented and filed, shall be a public record open to inspection by any person.

279.530 Rights and remedies of persons, associations and others furnishing medical care and attention to employees of contractor. Any person, copartnership, association or corporation furnishing or providing medical, surgical or hospital care or other needed care and attention, incident to sickness or injury, to the employees of any contractor of any contract made with the state, county, school district, municipality, municipal corporation or subdivision thereof shall have the same rights, remedies, rights of suit or action upon the contract and bond as are given by law to persons supplying any such contractor with labor or material in the prosecution of the work covered by any such contract, and to the State Industrial Accident Fund and to the State Industrial Accident Commission

279.532 Joint liability where bond not executed. If the contractor fails to pay for work and materials or claims due the State Industrial Accident Fund or claims due the State Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund or claims due the State Tax Commission and the officers of the state or the municipality, county or school district fail or neglect to require the person entering into the contract to execute the bond:

(1) The State of Oregon and the officers authorizing the contract shall be jointly liable for the labor and materials used in the prosecution of any work under the contract, claims due the State Industrial Accident Fund, claims due the State Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund and claims due the State Tax Commission, if the con-

tract was entered into with the State of Oregon.

(2) The municipality, county or school district and the officers authorizing the contract shall be jointly liable for the labor and materials used in the prosecution of any work under the contract to the persons performing such labor and the persons furnishing such materials and shall be liable for claims due the State Industrial Accident Fund, claims due the State Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund and claims due the State Tax Commission, if the contract was entered into on behalf of a municipality, county or school district. [Amended by 1953 c.131 §3]

279.534 Certain commissions considered as persons. For the purposes of ORS 279.522 to 279.532 the State Industrial Accident Commission, the State Unemployment Compensation Commission and the State Tax Commission shall each be considered a person. [Amended by 1953 c.131 §3]

279.536 to 279.600 [Reserved for expansion]

CONTRACTS FOR PUBLIC WORK AND MATERIALS IN COUNTIES OF 100,000 OR MORE POPULATION

279.610 Definitions. As used in ORS 279.610 to 279.626.

(1) "County" means a county of 100,000 or more population.

(2) "Court or board" means the county court or board of county commissioners.

279.612 Bids required for contracts for work and supplies in counties of 100,000 or more population; exceptions. (1) In counties of 100,000 or more population no contract shall be entered into by the county court or by the board of county commissioners, or by any officer of such county for any public works, or the purchase of any supplies or materials, or for work to be performed, until after bids have been submitted to the court or board, upon specifications therefor.

(2) In the letting of any contract or contracts involving \$1,500 or less, advertisement and competitive bidding shall be dispensed with, unless ordered by the court or board.

(3) In cases of emergency and where the interest or property of the county probably would suffer material injury by delay, or would in the discretion of the court or

board be materially benefited by immediate purchase, or contract, the court or board may purchase supplies required for such immediate use, or contract for work immediately necessary, without first advertising therefor, even though such contract involves a sum in excess of \$1,500, if the declaration of such emergency is concurred in by all members of the court or board.

279.614 Specifications. The specifications required by ORS 279.612 shall be in writing and shall be filed with the county clerk or the clerk of the county court for public inspection.

279.616 Advertisement for bids. (1) An advertisement for bids, stating the date after which bids will not be received, the character of the work to be done or material or things to be purchased, and that specifications therefor may be seen at the office of the county clerk or clerk of the county court, shall be published in the county official newspaper, if there be one, and, if not, then in a newspaper of general circulation in the county interested.

(2) All advertisements for bids shall state clearly that no bid will be received or considered by the court or board or any officer of the county unless the bid contains a statement by the bidder as a part of his bid that the provisions required by subsection (3) of ORS 279.620 shall be included in his contract.

(3) The advertisement shall be published not less than one week and there shall be as many additional publications as shall be determined by the court or board. The time within which bids shall be received shall not be less than five days after the last publication.

279.618 Bids; opening of bids; bids open to public inspection; check accompanying bid. (1) All bids made to the county pursuant to ORS 279.612 and 279.616 shall be:

(a) In writing

(b) Filed with the county clerk or the clerk of the county court.

(c) Opened in the presence of bidders on the date named therefor in the advertisement, by each public officer entitled to let contracts for the county or by the court or board.

(2) After having been opened the bids shall be filed for public inspection

(3) A certified check of the bidder of the amount of 10 percent of the bid or contract price shall be attached to all bids.

279.620 Award of contract; faithful performance bond; covenant to pay prevailing wage. (1) The public officer entitled to let contracts for the county or the court or board, or a majority of them, shall, after opening the bids as required by ORS 279.618, award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. "Lowest responsible bidder" means the lowest responsible bidder whose bid includes the provisions required by subsection (3) of this section

(2) The successful bidder shall

(a) Promptly execute a formal contract, to be approved as to its form, terms and conditions by the district attorney of the district in which the county is situated

(b) Execute and deliver to the county clerk or the clerk of the county court a good and sufficient bond, to be approved by the county judge, in the amount of the contract price for the faithful performance of the contract

(3) The contract made pursuant to subsection (2) of this section shall include a covenant by the contractor and his bond shall include a condition that in performing his contract the contractor will pay and cause to be paid not less than the prevailing rate of wages as of the date of his bid in such county per hour, per day, and per week for and to each and every workman who may be employed in and about the performance of his contract. If the public officers who make the contract determine at any time that the prevailing rate of wages has not or is not being paid as required by the contract they may retain from the moneys due to the contractor an amount sufficient to make up the difference between the wages actually paid and the prevailing rate of wages, and they may also cancel the contract

279.622 Disposition of checks accompanying bids. Upon the execution of the contract and bond by the successful bidder, the check that accompanied his bid shall be returned to him. The bidder who has a contract awarded to him and who fails promptly and properly to execute the contract or bond shall forfeit the check that accompanied his bid. The check shall be taken and considered as liquidated damages and not as a penalty for failure of the bidder to execute the contract and bond. The checks of unsuc-

cessful bidders shall be returned to them after the bids have been opened and the contract has been awarded and duly signed.

279.624 Interest of members of court or board in contracts and purchases prohibited. No member of the court or board shall be interested in any way, directly or indirectly, in any contract or purchase made for or on behalf of the county

279.626 Warrants invalid unless public bidding. Any warrants drawn in pursuance of any contract for public work or the purchase of any supplies or material, unless upon public bidding therefor as required by ORS 279.610 to 279.624, shall be void and unenforceable, whether in the hands of innocent third parties or otherwise

279.628 Source of sand, gravel and rock to be used in public work by political subdivision in counties of more than 100,000 population. Except as required by contracts existing on February 19, 1937, all sand, gravel and rock furnished to or used upon public construction or improvement work by any municipal corporation or political subdivision of this state in counties having more than 100,000 population, shall be obtained from the sources of supply owned by such municipal corporation or political subdivision, when the sand, gravel and rock are available in the kind and quality required therefor at a cost equal to or less than that of obtaining it from other sources of supply, taking into consideration the distance of hauling it from sources of supply owned by the municipal corporation or political subdivision.

279.630 to 279.700 [Reserved for expansion]

STATE PURCHASING

279.710 Definitions. As used in ORS 279.710 to 279.746, unless the context otherwise requires

(1) "Department" means the Department of Finance and Administration

(2) "State agency" or "agency" means every state officer, board, commission, department, institution, branch or agency of the state government, whose costs are paid wholly or in part from funds held in the State Treasury, except the Legislative Assembly, the Courts and their officers and committees, and except the Secretary of State and the State Treasurer in the per-

formance of the duties of their constitutional offices

(3) "Purchase" includes acquisition of personal property by lease or rental agreement

(4) "Services other than personal" include insurance, fidelity bonds and utility services

279.712 Department of Finance and Administration to purchase or provide for supplies, materials, equipment and services other than personal. The Department of Finance and Administration shall purchase or otherwise provide for the acquisition or furnishing of all supplies, materials, equipment and services other than personal required by state agencies, excepting the purchase of alcoholic liquor by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, and agreements for the purchase or distribution of school textbooks by the State Board of Education

279.714 Bids required for purchases, contracts, sales and rentals. (1) In so far as practicable, and except as otherwise provided by subsection (2) of this section and ORS 279 720, 279.730, 279 738 and 279 824, all purchases of and all contracts for supplies, materials, equipment, and services other than personal, and all sales of personal property or rentals of property, shall be based on competitive bids.

(2) Competitive bids shall not be required for utility services where no competition exists or where rates are fixed by law or ordinance and shall not be required in any proposed purchase for which there is only one vendor or supplier. The provisions of ORS 279.716 with respect to advertising for bids are not intended to apply to purchases by one state agency of goods produced or services rendered by another state agency, under an interagency agreement.

279.716 Securing bids. Competitive bids may be secured formally or informally; but if a proposed purchase exceeds \$1,000 in estimated amount, formal bid procedure shall be followed. Formal bids may be secured through public advertising or the circularization of mailing lists, or both. Copies of all notices of calls for bids shall be publicly posted in the office of the department reasonably in advance of the last date for receiving bids. The department shall keep lists of interested bidders for circularization and shall take other reasonable measures to assure that calls for bids are adequately advertised. All formal bids shall be sealed

when submitted and received and shall be opened in public at the hour stated in the notice. In securing informal bids the department shall take reasonable measures to assure that calls for bids are adequately advertised and that prospective bidders have a reasonable opportunity to submit their bids

279.718 Contracts and purchases to be based on standard specifications. Contracts and purchases shall be based on the standard specifications prescribed by the department in accordance with ORS 279 740, except to the extent that the department where such procedure is impracticable, for a particular contract or purchase, may otherwise provide

279.720 Purchases in open market. The department, with the approval of the Governor, may authorize supplies, materials, equipment, or services other than personal, to be purchased in the open market if competitive bids cannot be secured therefor.

279.722 Department may require that bids be accompanied by check or bond. In its discretion, the department may require that bids be accompanied either by a certified check, or by a bond in favor of the state furnished by a surety company authorized to do business in this state, in a sum not less than five percent of the total amount of the bid. However, at the time of submitting any bid, a bidder may, at his option, furnish a bond covering any and all bids submitted by him during one calendar year.

279.724 Rejection of bids; effect of alterations or erasures. (1) Any or all bids may be rejected. The department may reject the bid of any bidder who has failed to perform a previous contract with the state. In any case where competitive bids are required and where all bids are rejected, and the proposed purchase is not abandoned, new bids shall be called for as in the first instance, unless otherwise expressly provided by law.

(2) A bid shall be rejected if it contains any alteration or erasure unless, before the bid is submitted, each alteration and erasure is initialed in ink or indelible pencil by the person signing the bid and a certificate in substantially the following form is signed by the person signing the bid and attached to the bid:

I certify that I made and initialed, before I submitted the within bid, the following alterations and erasures in the within bid:

(Here set out each alteration and erasure, giving the page and line on which it is made, for example: "On line 10, page 3, '\$38,000' was changed to '\$28,000.'") [Amended by 1953 c.11 §3]

279.726 Awarding contract, purchase, sale or rental. All contracts and purchases for which competitive bids are required under ORS 279.714 shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder taking into consideration quality, probability of performance, and, in the case of lease and rental agreements, condition and location of premises. All sales or rentals of state property for which competitive bids are required under ORS 279.714 shall be awarded to the highest responsible bidder.

279.728 Bids and other documents to be retained and open to public inspection. All original bids, together with all documents pertaining to the award of a purchase or contract shall be retained and made a part of a permanent file or record which shall be open to public inspection.

279.730 ORS 279.710 to 279.746 not applicable to advertising and letting of certain contracts. Notwithstanding anything in ORS 279.710 to 279.746 to the contrary, all contracts for the acquisition, repair, improvement, maintenance or construction of highways or highway bridges and buildings incident thereto, park improvements and ferry services by the State Highway Commission and building construction contracts of the Board of Control, Board of Higher Education, Board of Forestry, Game Commission and Fish Commission, shall be advertised and let as now or hereafter provided by law therefor.

279.732 Requisitions. The department shall prescribe the time, manner, authentication and form of making requisitions by state agencies for supplies, materials, equipment and services other than personal.

279.734 Agency purchase contracts and orders. Except as otherwise provided in ORS 279.712, 279.730 and 279.738, no purchase contract or order shall be valid or effective without the written approval of the Department of Finance and Administration [Amended by 1953 c.11 §3]

279.736 Interest in contract or purchase order and rebates, gifts and other practices by officers and employees of de-

partment prohibited. (1) No officer or employee of the Department of Finance and Administration shall be financially interested, or have any personal beneficial interest, either directly or indirectly, in any contract or purchase order for any supplies, materials, equipment, or services other than personal used by or furnished to any state agency

(2) No officer or employee of the department shall accept or receive, directly or indirectly, by rebate, gift, or otherwise, from any person to whom any contract or purchase order is awarded, any money or anything of value whatsoever, or any promise, obligation or contract for future reward or compensation

279.738 State agency may be authorized to purchase directly; procedure. Under rules and regulations prescribed by it, the Department of Finance and Administration may authorize any state agency to purchase directly, specified supplies, materials, equipment and services other than personal. In making such purchases, the authorized agency shall call for bids and proceed otherwise in like manner as required in case of purchases by the department, except that in conditions constituting an emergency, as defined by regulations of the department, purchases for immediate use may be made without calling for bids by the department or agency.

279.740 Establishing and enforcing standard specifications. The department may:

(1) Establish and enforce standards for all supplies, materials and equipment in common use by state agencies

(2) Make or cause to be made any test, examination or analysis necessary therefor

(3) Require the assistance of any and all officers and agencies therefor.

(4) Prepare or cause to be prepared proper and uniform specifications

(5) Classify the requirements of the various agencies of the state government for the purpose of the use and application of such standard specifications.

279.742 Purchasing Revolving Fund; purchasing stock of supplies, materials and equipment; classified list of estimated needs.

(1) There is established a Purchasing Revolving Fund. The department may purchase a stock of supplies, materials and equipment from the Purchasing Revolving Fund for the

purpose of supplying current requirements of state agencies, the cost of which shall be reimbursed to the fund through charges to appropriation allotments on the basis of actual usage. Administrative costs incurred in the operation of the Purchasing Revolving Fund may be paid from the fund; and such costs shall be added to the cost of the supplies, materials and equipment as charged to the appropriation allotments of the agencies supplied.

(2) At the time specified by the department, each state agency shall submit to the department a classified list of its estimated needs for supplies, materials and equipment for a period designated by the department. The department shall consolidate the estimates and, on the authority thereof, may, out of the Purchasing Revolving Fund, purchase either the entire amount or only a part thereof at one time.

279.744 Purchase or contract by department for individual state agency. Any purchase or contract by the department for the account of any individual state agency shall be made on the basis of a requisition by the agency.

279.746 Storage facilities. (1) The department shall establish and have charge of any central storerooms and supply rooms serving more than one state agency.

(2) The department may acquire and maintain storage facilities and make such rules and regulations as are necessary for the proper and economical handling of state purchases.

279.748 Federal laws and rules govern where federal granted funds. Notwithstanding any provision in ORS 279.710 to 279.746 to the contrary, in all cases where federal granted funds are involved, the federal laws, rules and regulations applicable thereto shall govern.

279.750 to 279.790 [Reserved for expansion]

279.791 State flags for display on public buildings to be purchased by department.

(1) The Department of Finance and Administration shall purchase or otherwise provide for the acquisition of Oregon State flags of suitable size in sufficient quantity to meet the requirements of the state, counties and school districts under ORS 186.110. At the times specified by the department, the person or body having custody of the public

building or public school building shall submit to the department its estimated needs for Oregon State flags for a period designated by the department. The department shall consolidate the estimates. Based on the consolidated estimates, the department may provide for the purchase of the entire flag requirements or only a part thereof at one time; or on the authority of the consolidated estimates, the department may, out of the revolving fund provided for in ORS 279.742, purchase the entire amount or only a part thereof at one time; and if the revolving fund is used, the person or body having custody of the public building or public school building shall requisition Oregon State flags as needed and shall pay the Department of Finance and Administration the cost of such flags.

(2) The Department of Finance and Administration may authorize the purchase directly by the person or body having custody of the public building or public school building of the required Oregon State flags. [1953 c.474 §5]

279.792 to 279.800 [Reserved for expansion]

SURPLUS PROPERTY; STATE AGENCY FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY

279.810 State Agency for Surplus Property; members. There is created a commission known as the State Agency for Surplus Property. The commission shall consist of the Superintendent of Public Instruction as chairman, the State Health Officer, the Chancellor of the State System of Higher Education, the persons serving in the capacity of state budget director and state purchasing agent and two members to be appointed by the Governor representing non-profit institutions.

279.812 Terms of office; filling vacancies. The term of office for the appointive members of the commission shall be for two years from the date of appointment. Any vacancy caused by the death or resignation of an appointive member shall be filled by the Governor to complete the unexpired term.

279.814 Meetings; quorum; executive committee. Meetings of the commission shall be held in the Capitol on call of the chairman or on request of three members of the commission. Four members shall constitute a

quorum to transact business. The commission may appoint an executive committee of three members to act when it is not in session.

279.816 Commission to advise Department of Finance and Administration. The State Agency for Surplus Property shall act solely in an advisory capacity to the Department of Finance and Administration in the matters related to the functions listed in ORS 279 820

279.818 Abolition and termination of commission. The Governor may abolish and terminate the State Agency for Surplus Property at any time he determines that it has served its purpose.

279.820 Powers and duties of Department of Finance and Administration with respect to surplus property. Subject to the power of the Governor to abolish the functions listed in this section when he determines that it is no longer necessary or desirable for the department to continue such functions, the Department of Finance and Administration shall have the following duties and powers:

(1) To accept and distribute surplus properties which may be available to tax-supported medical institutions, hospitals, clinics, health centers, school systems, schools, colleges and universities, and to other nonprofit medical institutions, hospitals, clinics, health centers, schools, colleges and universities, and to state institutions and agencies.

(2) To provide suitable facilities which may be needed for storage.

(3) To adopt policies for the distribution of surplus properties to public health and educational institutions and to state institutions and agencies

(4) To fix charges to cover costs of acquiring, purchasing, shipping, handling, warehousing, storing and distributing surplus properties obtained by donations or purchase, subject to federal laws and rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto and for the payment of necessary administrative expenses All fees or charges collected or received shall be deposited in the Surplus Property Revolving Account

(5) To act for public health and educational and state institutions and agencies in the procurement by sale or donation of surplus real and personal property.

(6) To cooperate with state institutions and agencies in locating, obtaining and warehousing surplus properties and state purchases which may be available to them by purchase or donation

279.822 Surplus Property Revolving Account. There is continued in existence in the General Fund in the State Treasury an account to be known as the Surplus Property Revolving Account and any moneys credited to that account hereby are appropriated for the purposes of ORS 279 820 The Secretary of State shall audit all claims approved by the Department of Finance and Administration and shall draw his warrants on the State Treasurer for the payment thereof payable out of the Surplus Property Revolving Account. All money received under ORS 279 820 shall be paid by the department to the State Treasurer for credit to the Surplus Property Revolving Account Upon termination by the Governor of the functions of the department under ORS 279.820, any balance remaining in the Surplus Property Revolving Account hereby is transferred to and made a part of the General Fund

279.824 Contracts with Federal Government for accepting gifts and acquiring surplus war materials; bids not required The Department of Finance and Administration may enter into any contract with the United States or with any agency thereof for the purpose of accepting gifts and for the acquisition of surplus war materials or property upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon, without regard to the provisions of ORS 279 714 and 279 716, requiring the posting of notices or public advertising for bids or the soliciting or receiving of competitive bids

279.826 to 279.988 [Reserved for expansion]

PENALTIES

279.990 Penalties. (1) Violation of ORS 279 032 is punishable, upon conviction, by a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or imprisonment for not more than six months in the county jail, or both

(2) Any contractor, subcontractor, agent or person in authority or in charge who violates any of the provisions of ORS 279 310 to 279 318, 279 338, or 279 512 to 279 518, as to hours of employment of labor

shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$1,000, or imprisoned in the county jail for not less than five days nor more than one year, or both.

(3) The provisions of subsection (1) of ORS 291.990 apply to ORS 279.008,

279.710 to 279.746 and 279.824. Any violation of ORS 279.008, 279.710 to 279.746 or 279.824 shall, upon conviction, be punished as prescribed in subsection (1) of ORS 291.990. [Amended by 1953 c.577 §2]

