

No. 270, A.]

[Published August 24, 1955.

**CHAPTER 592**

**AN ACT to amend 15.60 (1) and (5) of the statutes, relating to state purchases and granting rule-making authority.**

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

15.60 (1) and (5) of the statutes are amended to read:

15.60 (1) All materials, supplies, equipment and contractual services except as otherwise provided in subs. (3) and (7), when the estimated

cost exceeds \$3,000, shall be purchased from the lowest responsible bidder \* \* \* . *All orders awarded or contracts made by the director of purchases shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, taking into consideration the location of the institution or agency, the qualities of the articles to be supplied, their conformity with the specifications, the purposes for which they are required and the date of delivery, but preference shall always be given to materials, supplies and provisions of Wisconsin producers, distributors, suppliers and retailers. Bids shall be received only in accordance with such standard specifications as may be adopted by the director of purchases in the manner provided in this subsection. Any or all bids may be rejected. Each bid, with the name of the bidder, shall be entered on a record, and each record with the successful bid indicated shall, after the award or letting of the contract, be opened to public inspection. Due notice inviting proposals \* \* \* shall be published at least one day in the official state paper and the bids shall not be opened until at least 7 days from the last date of publication and 10 days from the first date of publication shall have elapsed. The official advertisement shall give a clear description of the article to be purchased, the amount of the bond or check to be submitted as surety with the bid and the date of public opening.*

(5) The director of purchases shall have power to require of bidders or contractors such sureties as, in his judgment, are deemed advisable. He shall have power to decide as to the responsibility and competency of such bidders and sureties. *A bond furnished by a surety company authorized to do business in this state, for the proper performance of each contract may be required in the discretion of the director of purchases.*

Approved August 19, 1955.