

CHAPTER 169.

[S. B. 3.]

COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENTS.

AN ACT relating to counties; providing for purchasing departments and purchasing agents; prescribing contract procedures, amending section 1, chapter 61, Laws of 1945, as amended by section 1, chapter 33, Laws of 1949 and RCW 36.32.240; and amending sections 3 and 4, chapter 61, Laws of 1945 and RCW 36.32.260 and 36.32.270.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

RCW 36.32.240
amended.

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 61, Laws of 1945, as amended by section 1, chapter 33, Laws of 1949, and RCW 36.32.240 are each amended to read as follows:

County purchasing
Department
authorized—
Where mandatory—Competitive bidding.

In any county the board of county commissioners may by resolution establish a county purchasing department and thereafter such department shall contract on a competitive basis for all public works and purchase on a competitive basis all supplies, materials, and equipment, for all departments of the county, exclusive of the county hospital, pursuant to the provisions hereof and under such rules as the board shall by resolution adopt, except for such contracts and purchases as shall be made pursuant to RCW 36.77.060, 36.77.070 and 36.82.130: *Provided*, That in all class AA or class A counties or in any county of the first class it shall be mandatory that a purchasing department be established.

RCW 36.32.260
amended.

SEC. 2. Section 3, chapter 61, Laws of 1945 and RCW 36.32.260 are each amended to read as follows:

Purchasing agent, when—Duties.

In any county having a purchasing department the board of county commissioners shall appoint a county purchasing agent, who shall be the head of such purchasing department. The county purchasing agent shall have had previous purchasing experience as purchasing agent of a commercial, industrial, institutional, or governmental plant or

agency, and shall be placed under such bond as the board may require. The board may establish a central storeroom or storerooms in charge of the county purchasing agent in which supplies and equipment may be stored and issued upon proper requisition by department heads. The purchasing agent shall be responsible for maintaining perpetual inventories of supplies and equipment and shall at least yearly, or oftener when so required by the board, report to the county commissioners a balancing of the inventory record with the actual amount of supplies or equipment on hand.

SEC. 3. Section 4, chapter 61, Laws of 1945 and RCW 36.32.270 are each amended to read as follows:

RCW 36.32.270
amended.

In the event of an emergency when the public interest or property of the county would suffer material injury or damage by delay, upon resolution of the board of county commissioners declaring the existence of such emergency and reciting the facts constituting the same, the board may waive the requirements of this chapter with reference to any purchase or contract.

Emergency
purchases.

Passed the Senate February 25, 1961.

Passed the House March 6, 1961.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1961.