

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 791

(Montgomery County Delegation)

Environment and Transportation

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Montgomery County - Housing Opportunities Commission - Procurement
MC 5-20

This bill prohibits the Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) from awarding a contract valued at more than \$150,000 if the contract is not (1) subject to federal procurement requirements and (2) approved in advance by HOC in an open meeting. However, in an emergency, HOC may award a contract valued at more than \$150,000 if it is brought before HOC for review at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill pertains only to procurement by HOC.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect HOC's finances, but may have an operational effect on the awarding of some contracts valued at more than \$150,000.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: State law establishes HOC as a public body corporate and politic that (1) exercises public and essential governmental functions and (2) has all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of Division II of the Housing and Community Development Article, which governs local housing authorities.

Background: HOC is the public housing agency for Montgomery County. Established in 1974, the commission administers federal, State, county, and private affordable housing programs. In addition, it develops housing, provides mortgage financing to developers and

first-time homebuyers, manages public housing and other rental units, administers rental subsidy programs (including the Housing Choice Voucher Program), and provides counseling and support services to lower-income individuals and families in assisted housing.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Montgomery County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 2020
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Analysis by: Michael C. Rubenstein

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510