

Planning and Development Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1184

AN ACT INCREASING THE THRESHOLD FOR SEALED BIDDING ON

Title: CERTAIN MUNICIPAL CONTRACTS.

Vote Date: 2/14/2025

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 2/3/2025

File No.:

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Planning and Development Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill was raised to increase the threshold for sealed bidding on municipal contracts for the purchase of real and personal property from twenty-five thousand dollars to fifty thousand dollars.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Ned Lamont, Connecticut State Governor](#), stated that he opposes the bill, stating that this bill is identical to last year's SB 226, and that would increase the threshold for sealed bidding on certain municipal contracts from \$25,000 to \$50,000. He stated that contracting must be transparent and accountable to ensure that the public has confidence in the critical work done by government. He attached his testimony from last year.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Matt Hart, Executive Director of Capital Region Council of Governments](#), offered testimony in support of this bill, stating that it is required to use a sealed bid for contracts and purchases greater than \$25,000 for municipalities that have adopted an ordinance concerning competitive bidding. He concludes that he supports the bill increase this figure to account for inflation.

[Zachary McKeown, Advocacy Manager of The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities](#), offered testimony in support of the bill, stating that this bill will give municipalities the ability if they so choose to increase the threshold, and it has not been updated for ten years. He also

states that it would be wise to increase the threshold, given our current inflation environment. Lastly, he states that the proposed legislation gives towns and cities the option to speed up services that maybe currently slowed by the existing threshold.

[Betsy Gara, Executive Director, Connecticut Council of Small Towns](#), offered testimony in support of this bill, stating that we have stayed at the same threshold for more than 10 years and it is necessary to increase the threshold, due to inflation, and by increasing the threshold, it would municipalities move forward with the process of goods and services in a timely manner. She also states that the threshold can only be increased through the adoption of an ordinance establishing requirements for competitive bidding.

[Jonathan Luiz, Town Manager, Town of Glastonbury](#), offered testimony in support of this bill.

[Paul DiGianvittorio](#) offered testimony in support of this bill.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

[Laurie Cecarelli Prizzi](#) offered testimony in opposing the bill.

Reported by:

Date: 3/3/2025

**Hannah Hayes, Committee Clerk
Matthew Domejczyk, Assistant Clerk**