

SENATE, No. 480

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 1968

By Senator HIERING

Referred to Committee on County and Municipal Government

AN ACT concerning purchases of library materials by free public libraries and supplementing chapters 33 and 54 of Title 40 of the Revised Statutes.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. The county library commission of any county or the board of  
2 trustees of any regional library established by 2 or more counties  
3 may, within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise made  
4 available to the commission or board, purchase the following with-  
5 out advertising for bids therefor: (1) library materials including  
6 books, periodicals, newspapers, documents, pamphlets, photo-  
7 graphs, reproductions, microforms, pictorial or graphic works,  
8 musical scores, maps, charts, globes, sound recordings, slides, films,  
9 filmstrips, video and magnetic tapes, other printed or published  
10 matter, and audiovisual and other materials of a similar nature;  
11 (2) necessary binding or rebinding of library materials; and (3)  
12 specialized library services.

1 2. The board of trustees of the free public library of any mu-  
2 nicipality or of a joint free public library may, within the limits  
3 of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the board,  
4 purchase the following without advertising for bids therefor: (1)  
5 library materials including books, periodicals, newspapers, docu-  
6 ments, pamphlets, photographs, reproductions, microforms, pic-  
7 torial or graphic works, musical scores, maps, charts, globes, sound  
8 recordings, slides, films, filmstrips, video and magnetic tapes, other  
9 printed or published matter, and audiovisual and other materials  
10 of a similar nature; (2) necessary binding or rebinding of library  
11 materials; and (3) specialized library services.

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

## STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to exempt county, regional and municipal public libraries from the necessity of advertising for bids in connection with the purchase of books and library services. In many cases bidding for such items is impractical; it delays acquisition of current materials and thus interferes with the library's function in disseminating information rapidly. In other cases there is no possibility of obtaining a discount from the list price through competitive bidding; and in some cases no competitive bids are obtainable. Since the purchase of textbooks has been expressly exempted from competitive bidding requirements in the school law (N. J. S. 18A:18-5), the same policy should prevail with respect to public libraries.