

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 156

Short Title: Increase Benefit Limit on Public Contracts. (Public)

Sponsors: Senator Sanderson (Primary Sponsor).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

February 25, 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO INCREASE LIMITS ON PUBLIC EMPLOYEES BENEFITTING FROM PUBLIC CONTRACTS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 14-234 reads as rewritten:

"§ 14-234. Public officers or employees benefiting from public contracts; exceptions.

...

(d1) Subdivision (a)(1) of this section does not apply to (i) any elected official or person appointed to fill an elective office of a village, town, or city having a population of no more than 15,000 according to the most recent official federal census, (ii) any elected official or person appointed to fill an elective office of a county within which there is located no village, town, or city with a population of more than 15,000 according to the most recent official federal census, (iii) any elected official or person appointed to fill an elective office on a city board of education in a city having a population of no more than 15,000 according to the most recent official federal census, (iv) any elected official or person appointed to fill an elective office as a member of a county board of education in a county within which there is located no village, town or city with a population of more than 15,000 according to the most recent official federal census, (v) any physician, pharmacist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, or nurse appointed to a county social services board, local health board, or area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse board serving one or more counties within which there is located no village, town, or city with a population of more than 15,000 according to the most recent official federal census, and (vi) any member of the board of directors of a public hospital if all of the following apply:

- (1) The undertaking or contract or series of undertakings or contracts between the village, town, city, county, county social services board, county or city board of education, local health board or area mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse board, or public hospital and one of its officials is approved by specific resolution of the governing body adopted in an open and public meeting, and recorded in its minutes and the amount does not exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for medically related services and ~~forty thousand dollars (\$40,000)~~ sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) for other goods or services within a 12-month period.
- (2) The official entering into the contract with the unit or agency does not participate in any way or vote.



- 1 (3) The total annual amount of contracts with each official, shall be specifically
2 noted in the audited annual financial statement of the village, town, city, or
3 county.
- 4 (4) The governing board of any village, town, city, county, county social services
5 board, county or city board of education, local health board, area mental
6 health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse board, or public
7 hospital which contracts with any of the officials of their governmental unit
8 shall post in a conspicuous place in its village, town, or city hall, or
9 courthouse, as the case may be, a list of all such officials with whom such
10 contracts have been made, briefly describing the subject matter of the
11 undertakings or contracts and showing their total amounts; this list shall cover
12 the preceding 12 months and shall be brought up-to-date at least quarterly.

13 "

14 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to contracts
15 executed on or after that date.