

AN ACT

To enact sections 9.315 and 9.316 of the Revised Code to prohibit an agent of a public authority, in issuing an invitation for bids or a request for proposals for a contract with the public authority, from requiring that any bond or insurance policy required under the contract be furnished by or acquired from a particular surety or insurance company or a particular agent or broker.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That sections 9.315 and 9.316 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 9.315. (A) As used in sections 9.315 and 9.316 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Public authority" means the state or a county, township, municipal corporation, school district, or other political subdivision of the state, or any public agency, authority, board, commission, instrumentality, or special district of the state or of a county, township, municipal corporation, school district, or other political subdivision of the state.

(2) "Self-insured public authority" means a public authority that has been granted the privilege to self-insure a construction project against workers' compensation liability by the administrator of workers' compensation pursuant to division (O) of section 4123.35 of the Revised Code.

(B) No officer, employee, or other agent of a public authority, in issuing an invitation for bids or a request for proposals for a contract with the public authority for the rendering of services or the supplying of materials, or for the construction, demolition, alteration, repair, or reconstruction of any public building, structure, highway, or other improvement, shall, directly or indirectly, require that any bid bond, performance bond, payment bond, or other bond, or any insurance policy, required under the contract be furnished by or acquired from a particular surety or insurance company or a particular

agent or broker.

(C) Division (B) of this section does not apply to any insurance policy entered into by a self-insured public authority in connection with a contract otherwise subject to this section. This division does not exempt any bid bond, performance bond, payment bond, or other bond from the appropriate application of division (B) of this section.

Sec. 9.316. (A) A person that is likely to be damaged by a violation of section 9.315 of the Revised Code may commence a civil action for injunctive relief against the public authority, and the court of common pleas involved in that action may grant injunctive relief based on the principles of equity and on the terms that the court considers reasonable. Proof of monetary damage or loss of profits is not required in a civil action commenced under this division.

(B) The court may award reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to the prevailing party in a civil action authorized by division (A) of this section.

SECTION 2. Sections 9.315 and 9.316 of the Revised Code, as enacted by this act, apply only with respect to contracts that are entered into on or after the effective date of this act.

Speaker _____ *of the House of Representatives.*

President _____ *of the Senate.*

Passed _____, 20____

Approved _____, 20____

Governor.

Am. S. B. No. 109

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The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

Director, Legislative Service Commission.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the ___ day of _____, A. D. 20____.

Secretary of State.

File No. _____ Effective Date _____