

consistent with the nature and requirements of the supplies or services to be procured, and written or oral discussions shall be conducted with all responsible offerors who submit proposals within a competitive range, price, and other factors considered: *Provided, however,* That the requirements of this subsection with respect to written or oral discussions need not be applied to procurements in implementation of authorized set-aside programs or to procurements where it can be clearly demonstrated from the existence of adequate competition or accurate prior cost experience with the product, that acceptance of an initial proposal without discussion would result in fair and reasonable prices and where the request for proposals notifies all offerors of the possibility that award may be made without discussion.

*Department of Defense Appropriation Act, 1963, Public Law 87-577;
76 Stat. 318, 332*

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SEC. 523. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for the procurement of any article of food, clothing, cotton, woven silk and woven silk blends, spun silk yarn for cartridge cloth, or wool (whether in the form of fiber or yarn or contained in fabrics, materials, or manufactured articles) not grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States or its possessions, except to the extent that the Secretary of the Department concerned shall determine that a satisfactory quality and sufficient quantity of any articles of food or clothing or any form of cotton, woven silk and woven silk blends, spun silk yarn for cartridge cloth, or wool grown, reprocessed, reused, or produced in the United States or its possessions cannot be procured as and when needed at United States market prices and except procurements outside the United States in support of combat operations, procurements by vessels in foreign waters and emergency procurements or procurements of perishable foods by establishments located outside the United States for the personnel attached thereto: *Provided,* That nothing herein shall preclude the procurement of foods manufactured or processed in the United States or its possessions: *Provided further, That no funds herein appropriated shall be used for the payment of a price differential on contracts hereafter made for the purpose of relieving economic dislocations: Provided further,* That none of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used except that, so far as practicable, all contracts shall be awarded on a formally advertised competitive bid basis to the lowest responsible bidder.

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*Contract Adjustment Act of 1958, Public Law 85-804, 72 Stat. 972,
50 U.S.C. §§ 1431-1435*

AN ACT To authorize the making, amendment, and modification of contracts to facilitate the national defense

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President may authorize any department or agency of the Government which exercises functions in connection with the national defense, acting in accordance with regulations prescribed by the President for the protection of the Government, to enter into contracts or into amendments or modifications of contracts heretofore or hereafter made and to make advance payments thereon, without regard to other provisions of law relating to the making, performance, amendment, or modification of contracts, whenever he deems that such action would facilitate the national defense. The authority conferred by this section shall not be utilized to obligate the United States in an amount in excess of \$50,000 without approval by an official at or above the level of an Assistant Secretary or his Deputy, or an assistant head or his deputy, of such department or agency, or by a Contract Adjustment Board established therein.

SEC. 2. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to constitute authorization hereunder for—

- (a) the use of the cost-plus-a-percentage-of-cost system of contracting;
- (b) any contract in violation of existing law relating to limitation of profits;