

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1995 SESSION

CHAPTER 273
SENATE BILL 708

AN ACT REGARDING THE PROCEDURE FOR LETTING PUBLIC CONTRACTS
BY THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE AND TO PROHIBIT THE UNAUTHORIZED
REMOVAL OR DESTRUCTION OF CAMPAIGN SIGNS IN MECKLENBURG
COUNTY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 143-129(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) No construction or repair work requiring the estimated expenditure of public money in an amount equal to or more than ~~fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)~~ one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or purchase of apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment requiring an estimated expenditure of public money in an amount equal to or more than ~~twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)~~ one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), except in cases of group purchases made by hospitals through a competitive bidding purchasing program or in cases of special emergency involving the health and safety of the people or their property, shall be performed, nor shall any contract be awarded therefor, by any board or governing body of the State, or of any institution of the State government, or of any county, city, town, or other subdivision of the State, unless the provisions of this section are complied with. For purposes of this Article, a competitive bidding group purchasing program is a formally organized program that offers purchasing services at discount prices to two or more hospital facilities. The limitation contained in this paragraph shall not apply to construction or repair work undertaken during the progress of a construction or repair project initially begun pursuant to this section. Further, the provisions of this section shall not apply to the purchase of gasoline, diesel fuel, alcohol fuel, motor oil or fuel oil. Such purchases shall be subject to G.S. 143-131."

Sec. 2. Section 1 of this act applies to the City of Charlotte only.

Sec. 3. Any person who removes or destroys a campaign sign earlier than four days after the election to which the sign is relevant without the authorization of the person who placed the sign or of the candidate, political committee, or referendum committee whose cause the sign promotes shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor and be punishable by a fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each sign removed or destroyed, not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500). This section does not apply to any government official enforcing a State law or local ordinance, to a public utility company removing a sign from its utility pole, or to the owner of the property on which the sign is placed. This section applies to Mecklenburg County only.

Sec. 4. This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 19th day of June, 1995.

Dennis A. Wicker
President of the Senate

Harold J. Brubaker
Speaker of the House of Representatives