An act to amend Section 20111 of the Public Contract Code, relating to school district contracts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST
AB 229, as introduced, Pacheco. School districts: public project contracts.
Existing law requires the governing board of any school district to let contracts for public projects involving an expenditure of $15,000 or more to the lowest responsible bidder who shall give security as the board requires, or else reject all bids.
This bill, instead, would require a public project contract involving an expenditure of $50,000 or more to be competitively bid. The bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to adjust the $50,000 threshold annually, as specified, commencing January 1, 2004.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 20111 of the Public Contract Code is amended to read:
20111. (a) The governing board of any school district, in accordance with any requirement established by that governing board pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2000, shall let any
contracts involving an expenditure of more than fifty thousand
dollars ($50,000) for any of the following:
   (1) The purchase of equipment, materials, or supplies to be
furnished, sold, or leased to the district.
   (2) Services, except construction services.
   (3) Repairs, including maintenance as defined in Section
20115, that are not a public project as defined in subdivision (c) of
Section 22002.
   The contract shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder who
shall give security as the board requires, or else reject all bids.
   (b) The governing board shall let any contract for a public
project, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 22002, involving
an expenditure of fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000) fifty thousand
dollars ($50,000) or more, to the lowest responsible bidder who
shall give security as the board requires, or else reject all bids. All
bids for construction work shall be presented under sealed cover
and shall be accompanied by one of the following forms of
bidder’s security:
   (1) Cash.
   (2) A cashier’s check made payable to the school district.
   (3) A certified check made payable to the school district.
   (4) A bidder’s bond executed by an admitted surety insurer,
made payable to the school district.
   Upon an award to the lowest bidder, the security of an
unsuccessful bidder shall be returned in a reasonable period of
time, but in no event shall that security be held by the school
district beyond 60 days from the time the award is made.
   (c) This section applies to all equipment, materials, or supplies,
whether patented or otherwise, and to contracts awarded pursuant
to subdivision (a) of Section 2000. This section shall not apply to
professional services or advice, insurance services, or any other
purchase or service otherwise exempt from this section, or to any
work done by day labor or by force account pursuant to Section
20114.
   (d) Commencing January 1, 1997, the Superintendent of Public
Instruction shall annually adjust the dollar amounts specified in
subdivision (a) to reflect the percentage change in the annual
average value of the Implicit Price Deflator for State and Local
Government Purchases of Goods and Services for the United
States, as published by the United States Department of
Commerce for the 12-month period ending in the prior fiscal year. The annual adjustments shall be rounded to the nearest one hundred dollars ($100).

(e) Commencing January 1, 2004, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall annually adjust the dollar amounts specified in subdivision (b) to reflect the percentage change in the annual average value of the California Construction Index for the 12-month period ending in the prior fiscal year. The annual adjustments shall be rounded to the nearest one hundred dollars ($100).