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Rachel Laurie Riddle
Chief Examiner

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City and County Boards of Education

To Whom It May Concern,

The Department received requests from city and county boards of education to be able to utilize PEPPM Cooperative Purchasing ("PEPPM"), a national governmental cooperative purchasing program, and to review the competitive bid process used by the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit ("CSIU"), a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to award Apple, Inc. a contract under RFB-528991.

Having reviewed the competitive bid process used by CSIU to make the award, the Department did not find any matters that were contrary to proper purchasing procedures or routine governmental procurement practices. CSIU solicited and awarded the contract to Apple, Inc., the sole bidder, in accordance with the competitive bid laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As a result, the Department approves the competitive bid process used by CSIU to award Apple, Inc. a contract under RFB-528991.

Prior to utilizing this purchasing cooperative contract, you must ensure your entity's compliance with the Alabama Competitive Bid Law. The *Code of Alabama* 1975, Section 16-13B-2 requires that you verify that the goods or services are not at the time available on the state purchasing program, or that they are available at a price equal to or less than that on the state purchasing program. Additionally, you must verify that the purchase is made through a participating Alabama vendor holding an Alabama business license if such a vendor exists.

Prior to making a purchase with federal funds under Apple, Inc. contract RFB-528991, please ensure the purchase would comply with any applicable bidding and/or procurement requirements set forth in *Uniform Grant Guidance*, 2 C.F.R. § 200, et seq..

If the Department can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Rachel Laurie Riddle
CHIEF EXAMINER