

---

By: **Frederick County Delegation**  
Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2001  
Assigned to: Appropriations

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 17, 2001

---

CHAPTER 208

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Frederick County - Public Facilities Bonds**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners of  
4 Frederick County, from time to time, to borrow not more than \$43,000,000 in  
5 order to finance the cost of certain public facilities in Frederick County, as  
6 herein defined, and to effect such borrowing by the issuance and sale at public or  
7 private sale of its general obligation bonds in like par amount; empowering the  
8 County to fix and determine, by resolution, the form, tenor, interest rate or rates  
9 or method of determining the same, terms, conditions, maturities, and all other  
10 details incident to the issuance and sale of the bonds; empowering the County to  
11 issue refunding bonds for the purchase or redemption of bonds in advance of  
12 maturity; empowering and directing the County to levy, impose, and collect,  
13 annually, ad valorem taxes in rate and amount sufficient to provide funds for  
14 the payment of the maturing principal of and interest on the bonds; exempting  
15 the bonds and refunding bonds and the interest thereon and any income derived  
16 therefrom from all State, county, municipal, and other taxation in the State of  
17 Maryland; providing that nothing in this Act shall prevent the County from  
18 authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds the interest on which is not  
19 excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes; providing that  
20 such borrowing may be undertaken by Frederick County in the form of  
21 installment purchase obligations executed and delivered by Frederick County  
22 for the purpose of acquiring agricultural land and woodland preservation  
23 easements; and generally relating to the issuance and sale of the bonds by  
24 Frederick County.

25 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
26 MARYLAND, That, as used herein, the term "County" means the body politic and  
27 corporate of the State of Maryland known as the County Commissioners of Frederick

1 County, and the term "public facilities" means the cost of construction and  
2 reconstruction of capital projects, including but not limited to landfill projects, public  
3 schools, roads, bridges, flood control projects, solid waste facilities, water and leachate  
4 treatment facilities, libraries, easements or similar or related rights in land that  
5 restrict the use of agricultural land or woodland to maintain the character of the land  
6 as agricultural land or woodland, and communication systems, including the  
7 development of property, the acquisition and installation of equipment and  
8 furnishings, together with any related architectural, financial, legal, planning, or  
9 engineering services.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County is hereby  
11 authorized to finance any part or all of the costs of the public facilities described in  
12 Section 1 of this Act, and to borrow money and incur indebtedness for that purpose, at  
13 one time or from time to time, in an amount not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
14 \$43,000,000 and to evidence such borrowing by the issuance and sale upon its full  
15 faith and credit of general obligation bonds in like par amount, which may be issued  
16 at one time or from time to time, in one or more groups or series, as the County may  
17 determine.

18 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the bonds shall be issued  
19 pursuant to a resolution of the County, which shall describe generally the public  
20 facilities for which the proceeds of the bond sale are intended and the amount needed  
21 for those purposes. The County shall have and is hereby granted full and complete  
22 authority and discretion in the resolution to fix and determine with respect to the  
23 bonds of any issue: the designation, date of issue, denomination or denominations,  
24 form or forms, and tenor of the bonds which, without limitation, may be issued in  
25 registered form within the meaning of Section 30 of Article 31 of the Annotated Code  
26 of Maryland, as amended; the rate or rates of interest payable thereon, or the method  
27 of determining the same, which may include a variable rate; the date or dates and  
28 amount or amounts of maturity, which need not be in equal par amounts or in  
29 consecutive annual installments, provided only that no bond of any issue shall mature  
30 later than 30 years from the date of its issue; the manner of selling the bonds, which  
31 may be at either public or private sale, for such price or prices as may be determined  
32 to be for the best interests of Frederick County; the manner of executing and sealing  
33 the bonds, which may be by facsimile; the terms and conditions, if any, under which  
34 bonds may be tendered for payment or purchase prior to their stated maturity; the  
35 terms or conditions, if any, under which bonds may or shall be redeemed prior to their  
36 stated maturity; the place or places of payment of the principal of and the interest on  
37 the bonds, which may be at any bank or trust company within or without the State of  
38 Maryland; covenants relating to compliance with applicable requirements of federal  
39 income tax law, including covenants regarding the payment of rebate or penalties in  
40 lieu of rebate; covenants relating to compliance with applicable requirements of  
41 federal or state securities laws; and generally all matters incident to the terms,  
42 conditions, issuance, sale, and delivery thereof.

43 The County may enter into agreements with agents, banks, fiduciaries,  
44 insurers, or others for the purpose of enhancing the marketability of any security for  
45 the bonds and for the purpose of securing any tender option that may be granted to  
46 holders of the bonds.

1 In case any officer whose signature appears on any bond ~~or on any coupon~~  
2 ~~attached thereto~~ ceases to be such officer before the delivery thereof, such signature  
3 shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes as if he had remained in  
4 office until such delivery. The bonds and the issuance and sale thereof shall be exempt  
5 from the provisions of Sections ~~2C~~, 9, 10, and 11 of Article 31 of the Annotated Code of  
6 Maryland.

7 If the County determines in the resolution to offer any of the bonds by  
8 solicitation of competitive bids at public sale, the resolution shall fix the terms and  
9 conditions of the public sale and shall adopt a form of notice of sale, which shall  
10 outline the terms and conditions, and a form of advertisement, which shall be  
11 published in one or more daily or weekly newspapers having a general circulation in  
12 the County and which may also be published in one or more journals having a  
13 circulation primarily among banks and investment bankers. At least one publication  
14 of the advertisement shall be made not less than 10 days before the sale of the bonds.

15 Upon delivery of any bonds to the purchaser or purchasers, payment therefor  
16 shall be made to the Treasurer of Frederick County or such other official of Frederick  
17 County as may be designated to receive such payment in a resolution passed by the  
18 County Commissioner of Frederick County before delivery. For purposes of issuance  
19 and sale, bonds authorized hereunder may be consolidated into a single issue with  
20 any other bonds authorized to be issued by the County.

21 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the net proceeds of the  
22 sale of bonds shall be used and applied exclusively and solely for the public facilities  
23 for which the bonds are sold. If the net proceeds of the sale of any issue of bonds  
24 exceeds the amount needed to finance the public facilities described in the resolution,  
25 the excess funds so borrowed and not expended shall be applied to the payment of the  
26 next principal maturity of the bonds or to the redemption of any part of the bonds  
27 which have been made redeemable or to the purchase and cancellation of bonds,  
28 unless the County shall adopt a resolution allocating the excess funds to the costs of  
29 other public facilities.

30 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the bonds hereby  
31 authorized shall constitute, and they shall so recite, an irrevocable pledge of the full  
32 faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County to the payment of the  
33 maturing principal of and interest on the bonds as and when they become payable. In  
34 each and every fiscal year that any of the bonds are outstanding, the County shall  
35 levy or cause to be levied ad valorem taxes upon all the assessable property within the  
36 corporate limits of Frederick County in rate and amount sufficient to provide for or  
37 assure the payment, when due, of the principal of and interest on all the bonds  
38 maturing in each such fiscal year and, in the event the proceeds from the taxes so  
39 levied in any such fiscal year shall prove inadequate for such payment, additional  
40 taxes shall be levied in the succeeding fiscal year to make up any such deficiency. The  
41 County may apply to the payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds issued  
42 hereunder any funds received by it from the State of Maryland, the United States of  
43 America, any agency or instrumentality thereof, or from any other source. If such  
44 funds are granted for the purpose of assisting the County in financing the  
45 construction, improvement, development, or renovation of the public facilities defined

1 in this Act and, to the extent of any such funds received or receivable in any fiscal  
2 year, the taxes that might otherwise be levied under this Act, may be reduced or need  
3 not be levied.

4 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County is hereby  
5 further authorized and empowered, at any time and from time to time, to issue its  
6 bonds in the manner herein above described for the purpose of refunding, by payment  
7 at maturity or upon purchase or redemption, any bonds issued hereunder. The  
8 validity of any such refunding bonds shall in no way be dependent upon or related to  
9 the validity or invalidity of the obligations so refunded. The powers herein granted  
10 with respect to the issuance of bonds shall be applicable to the issuance of refunding  
11 bonds. Such refunding bonds may be issued by the County for the purpose of  
12 providing it with funds to pay any of its outstanding bonds issued hereunder at  
13 maturity, for the purpose of providing it with funds to purchase in the open market  
14 any of its outstanding bonds issued hereunder, prior to the maturity thereof, or for the  
15 purpose of providing it with funds for the redemption prior to maturity of any  
16 outstanding bonds issued hereunder which are, by their terms, redeemable, for the  
17 purpose of providing it with funds to pay interest on any outstanding bonds issued  
18 hereunder prior to their payment at maturity of purchase or redemption in advance of  
19 maturity, or for the purpose of providing it with funds to pay any redemption or  
20 purchase premium in connection with the refunding of any of its outstanding bonds  
21 issued hereunder. The proceeds of the sale of any such refunding bonds shall be  
22 segregated and set apart by the County as a separate trust fund to be used solely for  
23 the purpose of paying the purchase or redemption prices of the bonds to be refunded.

24 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County may, prior to  
25 the preparation of definitive bonds, issue interim certificates or temporary bonds,  
26 with or without coupons, exchangeable for definitive bonds when such bonds have  
27 been executed and are available for such delivery, provided, however, that any such  
28 interim certificates or temporary bonds shall be issued in all respects subject to the  
29 restrictions and requirements set forth in this Act. The County may, by appropriate  
30 resolution, provide for the replacement of any bonds issued hereunder which shall  
31 have become mutilated or lost or destroyed upon such conditions and after receiving  
32 such indemnity as the County may require.

33 SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any and all obligations  
34 issued pursuant to the authority of this Act, their transfer, the interest payable  
35 thereon, and any income derived therefrom in the hands of the holders thereof from  
36 time to time (including any profit made in the sale thereof) shall be and are hereby  
37 declared to be at all times exempt from State, county, municipal, or other taxation of  
38 every kind and nature whatsoever within the State of Maryland.

39 Nothing in this Act shall prevent the County from authorizing the issuance and  
40 sale of bonds the interest on which is not excludable from gross income for federal  
41 income tax purposes.

42 SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the authority to borrow  
43 money and issue bonds conferred on the County by this Act shall be deemed to provide  
44 additional, alternative, and supplemental authority for borrowing money and shall be

1 regarded as supplemental and additional to powers conferred upon the County by  
2 other laws and shall not be regarded as in derogation of any power now existing; and  
3 all Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland heretofore passed authorizing the  
4 County to borrow money are hereby continued to the extent that the powers contained  
5 in such Acts have not been exercised, and nothing contained in this Act may be  
6 construed to impair, in any way, the validity of any bonds that may have been issued  
7 by the County under the authority of any said Acts, and the validity of the bonds is  
8 hereby ratified, confirmed, and approved. This Act, being necessary for the welfare of  
9 the inhabitants of Frederick County, shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes  
10 hereof. All Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
11 hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

12 SECTION 10. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the borrowing  
13 authorized by this Act may also be undertaken by the County in the form of  
14 installment purchase obligations executed and delivered by the County for the  
15 purpose of acquiring easements or similar or related rights in land that restrict the  
16 use of agricultural land or woodland to maintain the character of the land as  
17 agricultural land or woodland. The form of installment purchase obligations, the  
18 manner of accomplishing the acquisition of easements, which may be by the direct  
19 exchange of installment purchase obligations for easement, and all matters incident  
20 to the execution and delivery of the installment purchase obligations and acquisition  
21 of the easements by the County shall be determined in the resolution. Except where  
22 the provisions of this Act would be inapplicable to installment purchase obligations,  
23 the term "bonds" used in this Act shall include installment purchase obligations and  
24 matters pertaining to the bonds under this Act, such as the security for the payment  
25 of the bonds, the exemption of the bonds from State, county, municipal, or other  
26 taxation, and authorization to issue refunding bonds and the limitation on the  
27 aggregate principal amount of bonds authorized for issuance, shall be applicable to  
28 installment purchase obligations.

29 ~~SECTION 11.~~ SECTION 11. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
30 effect June 1, 2001.