
By: **Delegates V. Jones, Marriott, Hecht, Snodgrass, Paige, Nathan-Pulliam,**

A. Jones, Montague, Rawlings, Doory, and Kirk

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2001

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

Re-referred to: Appropriations, February 26, 2001

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 24, 2001

CHAPTER 320

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Mercy Medical Center**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$1,000,000,
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of Mercy Medical
5 Center for certain development or improvement purposes; providing that no
6 proceeds of a loan or any matching funds may be used for sectarian religious
7 purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a
8 requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; and
9 providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
13 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Mercy
14 Medical Center Loan of 2001 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser of (i)
15 \$1,000,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in accordance with
16 Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of
17 State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public
18 Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of
19 the State Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

20 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as
21 a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under
22 § 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

1 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer
2 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
3 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
4 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
5 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
6 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of Mercy Medical
7 Center (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the planning, design,
8 construction, and capital equipping of a new facility, for use as the Center for Women's
9 Health and Medicine, to be located on the campus of Mercy Medical Center in
10 Baltimore.

11 (4) An annual State tax is imposed on all assessable property in the State in
12 rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, as and
13 when due and until paid in full. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years
14 after the date of issuance of the bonds.

15 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
16 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
17 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
18 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
19 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property or in kind
20 contributions. The fund may consist of funds expended prior to the effective date of
21 this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money
22 or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine
23 the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2003, to
24 present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will
25 be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and
26 the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan
27 equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided
28 in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund
29 certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

30 (6) No portion of the proceeds of the loan or any of the matching funds may be
31 used for the furtherance of sectarian religious instruction, in connection with the
32 design, acquisition, or construction of any building used or to be used as a place of
33 sectarian religious worship or instruction, or in connection with any program or
34 department of divinity for any religious denomination. Upon the request of the Board
35 of Public Works, the grantee shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Board that none
36 of the proceeds of the loan or any matching funds has been or is being used for a
37 purpose prohibited by this Act.

38 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
39 effect June 1, 2001.

