

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2010 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 304 (Senator Munson)  
Budget and Taxation

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**Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2007 - Washington County -  
Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park**

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This bill removes the requirement that the Chesapeake and Ohio National Canal Historic Park must convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust in order for State matching funds to be issued for the project.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2010.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill does not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not directly affect the finances or operations of Washington County.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Chapter 488 of 2007 authorized up to \$100,000 in matching funds for the planning, design, and repair to the towpath in the Big Slackwater section of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, located in Downsville, subject to a requirement that the grantee convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust. No part of the grantee's matching fund may consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to June 1, 2007.

**Background:** The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park consists of nearly 20,000 acres of land located along the Potomac River from the Georgetown section of Washington, DC to Cumberland, Maryland. The park serves various purposes and offers numerous educational and recreational opportunities that allow visitors to experience the cultural and natural resources along the Potomac River.

The necessary matching funds for the project have been raised and repairs are slated to begin later this year. The grantee advises that the requirement to convey an historic easement must be removed because the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park, as a national park, may not to convey an historic easement to the State.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park, Washington County, Department of General Services, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 14, 2010  
mpc/ljm

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