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**By: Delegates Taylor and Rawlings**

Introduced and read first time: March 4, 1996

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

**2 Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Maryland Historical Society**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$1,500,000,  
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Maryland Historical Society for certain  
5 acquisition, development, or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of  
6 the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a  
7 matching fund; requiring the grantee to grant and convey a certain easement to the  
8 Maryland Historical Trust; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of  
9 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 Baltimore City  
14 - Maryland Historical Society Loan of 1996 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser  
15 of (i) \$1,500,000 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 Works  
18 and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State  
19 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 a  
21 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.

23 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer and  
24 first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and delivering the  
25 bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then shall be credited on  
26 the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the Board of Public Works,  
27 for the following public purposes, including any applicable architects' and engineers' fees:  
28 as a grant to the Maryland Historical Society (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the  
29 grantee") for the repair, renovation, reconstruction, and equipping of the existing  
30 facilities and the planning, design, construction, and equipping of new facilities in  
31 Baltimore City.

32 (4) An annual State tax is imposed on all assessable property in the State in rate  
33 and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as and when due

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1 and until paid in full. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years after the date of  
2 issuance of the bonds.

3 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the  
4 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a matching  
5 fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly or  
6 indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of  
7 the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to  
8 the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching  
9 fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works  
10 shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1,  
11 1998, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund  
12 will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and  
13 the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan  
14 equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in  
15 this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified  
16 by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

17 (6) (a) Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey to  
18 the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of its  
19 interest:

20 (i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust;  
21 and

22 (ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic  
23 structures.

24 (b) The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the Trust  
25 and the extent of the interest to be encumbered must be acceptable to the Trust.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 June 1, 1996.

