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**By: Senators Young and McFadden**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Arena Playhouse**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$250,000,  
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of Arena Players, Inc.  
5 for certain acquisition, development, or improvement purposes; providing for  
6 disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee  
7 provide and expend a matching fund; and providing generally for the issuance and  
8 sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

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

11 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on  
12 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Baltimore City  
13 - Arena Playhouse Loan of 1996 in the total principal amount of \$250,000. This loan shall  
14 be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds  
15 authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in  
16 accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article  
17 and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

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

21 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer and  
22 first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and delivering the  
23 bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then shall be credited on  
24 the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the Board of Public Works,  
25 for the following public purposes, including any applicable architects' and engineers' fees:  
26 as a grant to the Board of Directors of Arena Players, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this  
27 Act as "the grantee") for the repair and renovation of the Arena Playhouse in Baltimore  
28 City.

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

1           (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the  
2 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a matching  
3 fund of \$25,000. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly  
4 or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part  
5 of the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to  
6 the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching  
7 fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works  
8 shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1,  
9 1998, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund  
10 will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact to  
11 the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan shall be expended for the purposes  
12 provided in this Act.

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