

CF 7r2725

By: Delegates Klausmeier, Redmer, and Ports

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Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 30, 1997

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - The Maryland School for the Blind**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of ~~\$262,500~~
 4 \$200,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to The Maryland School for the Blind
 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; requiring the grantee to grant and convey a
 8 certain easement to the Maryland Historical Trust; and providing generally for the
 9 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 Maryland School
 14 for the Blind Loan of 1997 in the total principal amount of ~~\$262,500~~ \$200,000. This loan
 15 shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds
 16 authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in
 17 accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article
 18 and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

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

22 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer and
 23 first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and delivering the
 24 bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then shall be credited on
 25 the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the Board of Public Works,
 26 for the following public purposes, including any applicable architects' and engineers' fees:

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1 as a grant to The Maryland School for the Blind (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the
2 grantee") for the provision and installation of capital equipment, including the upgrading
3 of the fire alarm system for compliance with all requirements of the Americans with
4 Disabilities Act, the installation to include all necessary associated repairs and
5 renovations.

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

10 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
11 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a matching
12 fund of \$87,500. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly
13 or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part
14 of the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to
15 the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching
16 fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works
17 shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1,
18 1999, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund
19 will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact to
20 the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan shall be expended for the purposes
21 provided in this Act.

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

25 (i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust;
26 and

27 (ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic
28 structures.

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

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 June 1, 1997.