
By: Delegates Conway, McClenahan, and Bozman

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 6, 1997

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Somerset County - Smith Island Conference Center Loan of 1995**

3 FOR the purpose of amending Chapter 310 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1995,
4 the Somerset County - Ward Brothers Homeplace Loan of 1995, to alter the name
5 of the loan, to alter the name of the recipient of the proceeds of the bonds, to alter
6 the purpose for which the proceeds of the bonds will be used, to alter the kind of
7 matching fund that will be provided, and to remove the historic easement.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Chapter 310 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1995
10 Section 1

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Chapter 310 of the Acts of 1995**

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That:

16 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
17 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Somerset County
18 - [Ward Brothers Homeplace] SMITH ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTER Loan of 1995 in
19 a total principal amount equal to the lesser of (i) \$50,000 or (ii) the amount of the
20 matching fund provided in accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be
21 evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized
22 by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in
23 accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article
24 and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

25 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as a
26 single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under §
27 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

28 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer and
29 first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and delivering the
30 bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then shall be credited on

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1 the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the Board of Public Works,
 2 for the following public purposes, including any applicable architects' and engineers' fees:
 3 as a grant to the Board of Directors of [Ward Brothers Homeplace,] THE CRISFIELD
 4 AND SMITH ISLAND CULTURAL ALLIANCE, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as
 5 "the grantee") for the [restoration, including the repair and renovation, of the Ward
 6 Brothers Homeplace at 3199 Sackertown Road in Crisfield, Maryland] PROVISION AND
 7 STABILIZATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE, AND THE PROVISION OF CAPITAL
 8 EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS FOR THE SMITH ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTER.

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

13 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
 14 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a matching
 15 fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly or
 16 indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of
 17 the fund may consist of [real property or] in kind contributions. The fund may consist of
 18 funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act OR REAL PROPERTY. In case of
 19 any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as
 20 matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board's
 21 decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 1997, to present evidence satisfactory to
 22 the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence
 23 is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of the matching fund to the
 24 State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the amount of the matching fund
 25 shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess
 26 of the amount of the matching fund certified by the Board of Public Works shall be
 27 canceled and be of no further effect.

28 [(6) (a) Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey to
 29 the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of its
 30 interest:

31 (i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust;
 32 and

33 (ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic
 34 structures.

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

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