

HOUSE BILL 693

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B2

1998 Regular Session
8lr2073
CF 8lr2072

By: **Delegates Branch, C. Davis, and Harrison**
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 1998
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Fair Chance Center**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$300,000,
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Fair Chance,
5 Inc. for certain acquisition, development, or improvement purposes; providing
6 for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee
7 provide and expend a matching fund; prohibiting the grantee from using the
8 funds for sectarian religious purposes; and providing generally for the issuance
9 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 Baltimore
14 City - Fair Chance Center Loan of 1998 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser
15 of (i) \$300,000 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
18 Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of
19 the State 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
21 a 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
24 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
25 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
26 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
27 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
28 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Fair Chance,
29 Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the planning, design,
30 construction, repair, renovation, and capital equipping and furnishing of buildings
31 located at 301 through 323 North Gay Street, in Baltimore City, to be known as the
32 Fair Chance Center, the buildings to be used for programs addressing the needs of low

1 income people in the areas of education, job training, job placement, family
2 preservation, and other support services.

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

7 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
8 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
9 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
10 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
11 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property or in kind
12 contributions. The fund may consist of funds expended prior to the effective date of
13 this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money
14 or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine
15 the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2000, to
16 present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will
17 be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and
18 the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan
19 equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided
20 in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund
21 certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

22 (6) No portion of the proceeds of the loan or any of the matching funds may be
23 used for the furtherance of sectarian religious instruction, or in connection with the
24 design, acquisition, or construction of any building used or to be used as a place of
25 sectarian religious worship or instruction, or in connection with any program or
26 department of divinity for any religious denomination. Upon the request of the Board
27 of Public Works, the grantee shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Board that none
28 of the proceeds of the loan or any matching funds have been or are being used for a
29 purpose prohibited by this Act.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 June 1, 1998.