
By: **Delegates W. Baker, Guns, Walkup, and Clagett**
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 1999
Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 29, 1999

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Queen Anne's County - Horsehead Education**
3 **Center**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$275,000,
5 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Wildfowl Trust
6 of North America, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes;
7 providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that
8 the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; and providing generally for
9 the 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 Queen Anne's
14 County - Horsehead Education Center Loan of 1999 in a total principal amount equal
15 to the lesser of (i) \$275,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in
16 accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale,
17 and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board
18 of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through
19 8-124 of 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

1 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
2 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
3 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Wildfowl
4 Trust of North America, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the
5 planning, design, construction, reconstruction, and capital equipping of a building to
6 house the Horsehead Education Center to be located adjacent to Lake Knapp at the
7 Horsehead Wetlands Center.

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

12 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
13 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
14 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
15 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
16 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind
17 contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any
18 dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify
19 as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the
20 Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2001, to present evidence
21 satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If
22 satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of
23 the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the
24 amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act.
25 Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the
26 Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 June 1, 1999.