
By: **Dorchester County Delegation**
Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2000
Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: April 1, 2000

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Dorchester County - Meredith House**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed ~~\$159,000~~
4 \$100,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Trustees of the
5 Dorchester County Historical Society, Inc. for certain development or
6 improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject
7 to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; and
8 providing generally for the issuance and 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 Dorchester
13 County - Meredith House Loan of 2000 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser
14 of (i) ~~\$159,000~~ \$100,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in
15 accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale,
16 and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board
17 of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through
18 8-124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

19 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as
20 a 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
23 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
24 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
25 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the

1 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
 2 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Trustees of the Dorchester
 3 County Historical Society, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for
 4 the design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of
 5 Meredith House, the primary museum building on the LaGrange Plantation.

6 (4) An annual State tax is imposed on all assessable property in the State in
 7 rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, as and
 8 when due and until paid in full. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years
 9 after the date of 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
 12 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
 13 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
 14 unappropriated. ~~No part of the fund may consist of real property.~~ The fund may
 15 consist of in kind contributions, real property, or funds expended prior to the effective
 16 date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what
 17 money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall
 18 determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1,
 19 2002, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching
 20 fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this
 21 fact and the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of
 22 the loan equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes
 23 provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching
 24 fund certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further
 25 effect.

26 (6) (a) ~~Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey~~
 27 ~~to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of~~
 28 ~~its interest.~~

29 (i) ~~On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust;~~
 30 ~~and~~

31 (ii) ~~On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic~~
 32 ~~structures.~~

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

35 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 36 June 1, 2000.

