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By: Delegates W. Baker, Guns, Eckardt, Schisler, and Walkup

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2000

Assigned to: Appropriations

## A BILL ENTITLED

## 1 AN ACT concerning

## 2 Creation of a State Debt - Caroline County - Adkins Arboretum

- 3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of
- 4 \$400,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Trustees of Adkins
- 5 Arboretum, Ltd. for certain development or improvement purposes; providing
- for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee
- 7 provide and expend a matching fund; and providing generally for the issuance
- 8 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 Caroline
- 13 County Adkins Arboretum Loan of 2000 in the total principal amount of \$400,000.
- 14 This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general
- 15 obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued,
- 16 sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance
- 17 and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.
- 18 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as
- 19 a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under
- 20 § 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.
- 21 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer
- 22 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
- 23 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
- 24 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
- 25 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
- 26 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Trustees of Adkins
- 27 Arboretum, Ltd. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the planning,
- 28 construction, replanting, restoration, and expansion of Adkins Arboretum, Maryland's
- 29 only State-owned arboretum dedicated to the conservation of the native flora of the
- 30 region.

- 1 (4) An annual State tax is imposed on all assessable property in the State in 2 rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, as and 3 when due and until paid in full. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years 4 after the date of issuance of the bonds.
- 5 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the 6 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
- 7 matching fund of \$200,000. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided,
- 8 either directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
- 9 unappropriated. The fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds
- 10 expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount
- 11 of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the
- 12 Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final.
- 13 The grantee has until June 1, 2002, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of
- 14 Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is
- 15 presented, the Board shall certify this fact to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of
- 16 the loan shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act.
- 17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 18 June 1, 2000.