

SENATE BILL 92

Unofficial Copy  
B3

2000 Regular Session  
(01r1096)

*ENROLLED BILL*  
*-- Budget and Taxation/Appropriations --*

Introduced by **Senators Baker and Hooper**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this  
\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County - Public Facilities Bonds**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners of Cecil  
4 County, from time to time, to borrow not more than \$8,000,000 in order to  
5 finance the cost of *the construction and improvement of* certain public facilities  
6 in Cecil County and to effect that borrowing by the issuance and sale at public or  
7 private sale of its general obligation bonds in like ~~par~~ amount; empowering the  
8 County to fix and determine, by resolution, the form, tenor, interest rate or rates  
9 or method of determining the same, terms, conditions, maturities, and all other  
10 details incident to the issuance and sale of the bonds; empowering the County to  
11 issue refunding bonds for the purchase or redemption of bonds in advance of  
12 maturity; empowering and directing the County to levy, impose, and collect,  
13 annually, ad valorem taxes in rate and amount sufficient to provide funds for  
14 the payment of the maturing principal of and interest on the bonds; exempting  
15 the bonds and refunding bonds, and the interest thereon and any income  
16 derived therefrom, from all State, county, municipal, and other taxation in the  
17 State of Maryland; and relating generally to the issuance and sale of the bonds

1 by Cecil County.

2 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
3 MARYLAND, That, as used in this Act, the term "County" means that body politic  
4 and corporate of the State of Maryland known as the County Commissioners of Cecil  
5 County; and the term "~~public facilities~~" "construction and improvement of public  
6 facilities" means the ~~costs of~~ alteration, construction, reconstruction, enlargement,  
7 expansion, extension, improvement, replacement, rehabilitation, renovation,  
8 upgrading and repair, and related ~~costs for~~ architectural, financial, legal, planning,  
9 designing, or engineering services, for public capital projects in Cecil County,  
10 including any finance charges or interest prior to or during such financing and any  
11 other costs or expenditures incurred by the County in connection with the projects.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County is hereby  
13 authorized to finance any part or all of the costs of the public facilities described in  
14 Section 1 of this Act, and to borrow money and incur indebtedness for that purpose, at  
15 one time or from time to time, in an amount not exceeding, in the aggregate,  
16 \$8,000,000 and to evidence its borrowing by the issuance and sale upon its full faith  
17 and credit of general obligation bonds in like ~~par~~ amount, which may be issued at one  
18 time or from time to time, in one or more groups or series, as the County may  
19 determine.

20 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the bonds shall be issued  
21 pursuant to a resolution of the County which shall describe generally the public  
22 facilities for which the proceeds of the bond sale are intended and the amount needed  
23 for those purposes. The County shall have and is hereby granted full and complete  
24 authority and discretion in the resolution to fix and determine with respect to the  
25 bonds of any issue: the designation, date of issue, denomination or denominations,  
26 form or forms and tenor of the bonds; the rate or rates of interest payable thereon, or  
27 the method of determining the same, which may include a variable rate; the date or  
28 dates and amount or amounts of maturity, which need not be in equal par amounts or  
29 in consecutive annual installments, provided only that no bond of any issue shall  
30 mature later than 30 years from the date of its issue; the manner of selling the bonds,  
31 which may be at either public or private sale, for such price or prices as may be  
32 determined to be ~~for~~ in the best interests of the County; the manner of executing the  
33 bonds, which may be by facsimile; the terms and conditions, if any, under which bonds  
34 may be tendered for payment or purchase prior to their stated maturity; the terms or  
35 conditions, if any, under which bonds may or shall be redeemed prior to their stated  
36 maturity; the place or places of payment of the principal of and the interest on the  
37 bonds, which may be at any bank or trust company within or without the State of  
38 Maryland; and generally all matters incident to the terms, conditions, issuance, sale,  
39 and delivery thereof.

40 The County may enter into agreements with agents, banks, fiduciaries,  
41 insurers, or others for the purpose of enhancing the marketability of and security for  
42 the bonds and for the purpose of securing any tender option that may be granted to  
43 holders of the bonds.

1 In case any officer whose signature appears on any bond ceases to be such  
2 officer before delivery, the signature shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all  
3 purposes as if the officer had remained in office until delivery. The bonds and their  
4 issue and sale shall be exempt from the provisions of Sections 9, 10, and 11 of Article  
5 31 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

6 If the County determines in the resolution to offer any of the bonds by  
7 solicitation of competitive bids at public sale, the resolution shall fix the terms and  
8 conditions of the public sale and shall adopt a form of notice of sale, which shall  
9 outline the terms and conditions, and a form of advertisement, which shall be  
10 published in one or more daily or weekly newspapers having a general circulation in  
11 the County and which may also be published in one or more journals having a  
12 circulation primarily among banks and investment bankers. At least one publication  
13 of the advertisement shall be made not less than 10 days before the sale of bonds.

14 Upon delivery of any bonds to the purchaser or purchasers, payment shall be  
15 made to the Treasurer of Cecil County or such other official of the County as may be  
16 designated to receive payment in a resolution passed by the County Commissioners of  
17 Cecil County before delivery.

18 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the net proceeds of the  
19 sale of bonds shall be used and applied exclusively and solely for the public facilities  
20 for which the bonds are sold.

21 If the net proceeds of the sale of any issue of bonds exceeds the amount needed  
22 to finance the public facilities described in the resolution, the excess funds shall be  
23 applied to the payment of the next principal maturity of the bonds or to the  
24 redemption of any part of the bonds which have been made redeemable or to the  
25 purchase and cancellation of bonds, unless the County adopts a resolution allocating  
26 the excess funds to the construction, improvement, or development of other public  
27 facilities.

28 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the bonds hereby  
29 authorized shall constitute, and they shall so recite, an irrevocable pledge of the full  
30 faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County to the payment of the  
31 maturing principal of and interest on the bonds as and when they become payable. In  
32 each and every fiscal year that any of the bonds are outstanding, the County shall  
33 levy or cause to be levied ad valorem taxes upon all the assessable property within the  
34 corporate limits of the County in rate and amount sufficient to provide for or assume  
35 the payment, when due, of the principal of and interest on all the bonds maturing in  
36 each such fiscal year and, if the proceeds from the taxes so levied in any fiscal year  
37 prove inadequate for such payment, additional taxes shall be levied in the succeeding  
38 fiscal year to make up ~~a~~ *any* deficiency. The County may apply to the payment of the  
39 principal of and interest on any bonds issued under this Act any funds received by it  
40 from the State of Maryland, the United States of America, any agency or  
41 instrumentality of either, or from any other source. If such funds are granted for the  
42 purpose of assisting the County in financing the construction, improvement,  
43 development, or renovation of the public facilities defined in this Act and, to the  
44 extent of any such funds received or receivable in any fiscal year, taxes that might

1 otherwise be required to be levied under this Act may be reduced or need not be  
2 levied.

3 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County is hereby  
4 further authorized and empowered, at any time and from time to time, to issue its  
5 bonds in the manner hereinabove described for the purpose of refunding, upon  
6 purchase or redemption, any bonds issued under this Act. The validity of any  
7 refunding bonds shall in no way be dependent upon or related to the validity or  
8 invalidity of the obligations being refunded. The powers granted under this Act with  
9 respect to the issuance of bonds shall be applicable to the issuance of refunding bonds.  
10 Such refunding bonds may be issued by the County for the purpose of providing it  
11 with funds to purchase in the open market any of its outstanding bonds issued under  
12 this Act, prior to their maturity, or for the purpose of providing it with funds for the  
13 redemption prior to maturity of any outstanding bonds which are, by their terms,  
14 redeemable. The proceeds of the sale of any refunding bonds shall be segregated and  
15 set apart by the County as a separate trust fund to be used solely for the purpose of  
16 paying the purchase or redemption prices of the bonds to be refunded.

17 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County may, prior to  
18 the preparation of definitive bonds, issue interim certificates or temporary bonds,  
19 exchangeable for definitive bonds when such bonds have been executed and are  
20 available for delivery. The County may, by appropriate resolution, provide for the  
21 replacement of any bonds issued under this Act which may have become mutilated or  
22 lost or destroyed upon whatever conditions and after receiving whatever indemnity as  
23 the County may require.

24 SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any and all obligations  
25 issued under this Act, their transfer, the interest payable on them, and any income  
26 derived from them from time to time (including any profit made in their sale) shall be  
27 and are hereby declared to be at all times exempt from State, county, municipal, or  
28 other taxation of every kind and nature whatsoever within the State of Maryland.

29 SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the authority to borrow  
30 money and issue bonds conferred on the County by this Act shall be deemed to provide  
31 additional, alternative, and supplemental authority for borrowing money and shall be  
32 regarded as supplemental and additional to powers conferred upon the County by  
33 other laws and may not be regarded as in derogation of any power now existing; and  
34 all previously enacted laws authorizing the County to borrow money are hereby  
35 continued to the extent that the power contained in them is continuing or has not  
36 been exercised, unless any law is expressly repealed by this Act, and the validity of  
37 any bonds issued under previously enacted laws is hereby ratified, confirmed, and  
38 approved. This Act, being necessary for the welfare of the inhabitants of the County,  
39 shall be liberally construed to effect its purposes. All Acts and parts of Acts  
40 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed to the extent of any  
41 inconsistency.

42 SECTION 10. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
43 June 1, 2000.

