

SENATE BILL 563

Unofficial Copy  
B2

2000 Regular Session  
0lr0634  
CF 0lr0635

---

By: **Harford County Senators**  
Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2000  
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

---

Committee Report: Favorable  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 21, 2000

---

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Harford County - The Ripken Stadium Loan of 1998**

3 FOR the purpose of amending Chapter 158 of the Acts of the General Assembly of  
4 1998, the Harford County - The Ripken Stadium Loan of 1998, to extend the  
5 time by which the Mayor and City Council of the City of Aberdeen and the  
6 County Executive and County Council of Harford County shall provide certain  
7 evidence.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Chapter 158 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1998  
10 Section 1

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Chapter 158 of the Acts of 1998**

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
15 MARYLAND, That:

16 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on  
17 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Harford  
18 County - The Ripken Stadium Loan of 1998 in a total principal amount equal to the  
19 lesser of (i) \$200,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in accordance  
20 with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and  
21 delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of  
22 Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through  
23 8-124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

1 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as  
2 a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under  
3 § 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

4 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer  
5 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and  
6 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then  
7 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the  
8 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable  
9 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of  
10 Aberdeen (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the planning and  
11 design of a new baseball stadium in the City of Aberdeen in Harford County, to be  
12 named The Ripken Stadium in honor of the Ripken family, so famous and respected in  
13 professional baseball and so long associated with the Baltimore Orioles, with Cal  
14 Ripken, Sr. as manager and coach, Billy Ripken as second baseman, and Cal Ripken,  
15 Jr. as shortstop and third baseman.

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

20 (5) (a) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for  
21 the purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the following shall occur:

22 (i) The grantee and the County Executive and the County Council  
23 of Harford County shall provide a joint letter of commitment to the Board of Public  
24 Works stating the intent of the grantee to provide \$900,000 and the intent of the  
25 County Executive and County Council of Harford County to provide \$1,900,000 as a  
26 grant to the City of Aberdeen of which all funds shall be pledged toward the costs of  
27 constructing and equipping a new baseball stadium in the City of Aberdeen in  
28 Harford County, to be named The Ripken Stadium;

29 (ii) The Mayor and City Council of Aberdeen shall have a contract  
30 with a minor league baseball team to play baseball at the new stadium; and

31 (iii) The grantee and the County Executive and the County Council  
32 of Harford County shall provide and expend a matching fund. Of the total amount of  
33 the matching fund, the grantee is responsible for \$100,000 and the County Executive  
34 and County Council of Harford County are responsible for \$100,000. No part of the  
35 matching fund may consist of funds that have been acquired, either directly or  
36 indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part  
37 of the matching fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds  
38 expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount  
39 of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the  
40 Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final.  
41 The grantee and the County Executive and County Council of Harford County have  
42 until [October 1, 1998] JUNE 1, 2002, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of  
43 Public Works that a matching fund will be provided.

1           (b)       If satisfactory evidence is presented that the requirements of  
2 paragraph (a) of this subsection have been met, the Board shall certify these facts and  
3 the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan  
4 equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided  
5 in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund  
6 certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

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