

SENATE BILL 777

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B2

2000 Regular Session  
0lr2604  
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By: **Senator Mitchell**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2000

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Star Spangled Banner Flag House**  
3 **and 1812 Museum**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$1,000,000,  
5 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Star Spangled  
6 Banner Flag House Association, Inc. for certain development or improvement  
7 purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a  
8 requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; providing  
9 that the grantee will grant and convey a certain easement to the Maryland  
10 Historical Society; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds  
11 evidencing the loan.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on  
15 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Baltimore  
16 City - Star Spangled Banner Flag House and 1812 Museum Loan of 2000 in a total  
17 principal amount equal to the lesser of (i) \$1,000,000 or (ii) the amount of the  
18 matching fund provided in accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be  
19 evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds  
20 authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and  
21 delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance and  
22 Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

23 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as  
24 a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under  
25 § 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

26 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer  
27 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and  
28 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then  
29 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the  
30 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable  
31 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Star  
32 Spangled Banner Flag House Association, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as

1 "the grantee") for the construction and capital equipping of a new museum, to be  
2 known as the 1812 Museum, and for the repair, renovation, and reconstruction of the  
3 Star Spangled Banner Flag House, located in Baltimore, Maryland.

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

8 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the  
9 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a  
10 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either  
11 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or  
12 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind  
13 contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any  
14 dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify  
15 as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the  
16 Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2002, to present evidence  
17 satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If  
18 satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of  
19 the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the  
20 amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act.  
21 Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the  
22 Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

23 (6) (a) Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey  
24 to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of  
25 its interest:

26 (i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust;  
27 and

28 (ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic  
29 structures.

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

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