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# By: Calvert County Delegation

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001 Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments House action: Adopted Read second time: March 6, 2001

CHAPTER\_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

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## **Calvert County - Public Facilities Bonds**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners of Calvert County, from time to time, to borrow not more than \$34,925,000 in order 4 5 to finance the construction, improvement, or development of certain public roads and facilities in Calvert County, as herein defined, and to effect such 6 borrowing by the issuance and sale at public or private sale of its general 7 obligation bonds in like par amount; empowering the County to fix and 8 9 determine, by resolution, the form, tenor, interest rate or rates or method of 10 determining the same, terms, conditions, maturities, and all other details 11 incident to the issuance and sale of the bonds; empowering the County to issue 12 refunding bonds for the purchase or redemption of bonds in advance of maturity; 13 empowering and directing the County to levy, impose, and collect, annually, ad 14 valorem taxes in rate and amount sufficient to provide funds for the payment of 15 the maturing principal of and interest on the bonds; exempting the bonds and 16 refunding bonds and the interest thereon and any income derived therefrom from all State, county, municipal, and other taxation in the State of Maryland; 17 18 providing that nothing in this Act shall prevent the County from authorizing the 19 issuance and sale of bonds the interest on which is not excludable from gross 20 income for federal income tax purposes; and relating generally to the issuance and sale of such bonds. 21

## 22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

23 MARYLAND, That, as used herein, the term "County" means the body politic and

24 corporate of the State of Maryland known as the County Commissioners of Calvert

25 County, and the term "construction, improvement, or development of public roads and

26 facilities" means the acquisition, alteration, construction, reconstruction,

27 enlargement, equipping, expansion, extension, improvement, rehabilitation,

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1 renovation, upgrading, and repair of public roads and facilities, including, but not

2 limited to, roads and public school buildings and facilities, together with the costs of

3 acquiring land or interests in land as well as any related architectural, financial,

4 legal, planning, or engineering services.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County is hereby 6 authorized to finance any part or all of the costs of the public facilities described in 7 Section 1 of this Act, and to borrow money and incur indebtedness for that purpose, at 8 one time or from time to time, in an amount not exceeding, in the aggregate, 9 \$34,925,000 and to evidence such borrowing by the issuance and sale upon its full 10 faith and credit of general obligation bonds in like par amount, which may be issued 11 at one time or from time to time, in one or more groups or series, as the County may 12 determine.

13 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the bonds shall be 14 issued in accordance with a resolution of the County, which shall describe generally 15 the construction, improvement, or development of public roads and facilities for which 16 the proceeds of the bond sale are intended and the amount needed for those purposes. The County shall have and is hereby granted full and complete authority and 17 discretion in the resolution to fix and determine with respect to the bonds of any 18 19 issue: the designation, date of issue, denomination or denominations, form or forms, 20 and tenor of the bonds which, without limitation, may be issued in registered form within the meaning of Section 30 of Article 31 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as 21 amended; the rate or rates of interest payable thereon, or the method of determining 22 23 the same, which may include a variable rate; the date or dates and amount or 24 amounts of maturity, which need not be in equal par amounts or in consecutive 25 annual installments, provided only that no bond of any issue shall mature later than 26 30 years from the date of its issue; the manner of selling the bonds, which may be at 27 either public or private sale, for such price or prices as may be determined to be for 28 the best interests of Calvert County; the manner of executing and sealing the bonds, 29 which may be by facsimile; the terms and conditions, if any, under which bonds may 30 be tendered for payment or purchase prior to their stated maturity; the terms or conditions, if any, under which bonds may or shall be redeemed prior to their stated 31 32 maturity; the place or places of payment of the principal of and the interest on the bonds, which may be at any bank or trust company within or without the State of 33 34 Maryland; covenants relating to compliance with applicable requirements of federal 35 income tax law, including (without limitation) covenants regarding the payment of 36 rebate or penalties in lieu of rebate; covenants relating to compliance with applicable 37 requirements of federal or state securities laws; and generally all matters incident to 38 the terms, conditions, issuance, sale, and delivery thereof.

The bonds may be made redeemable before maturity, at the option of the County, 40 at such price or prices and under such terms and conditions as may be fixed by the 41 County prior to the issuance of the bonds, either in the resolution or in a bond order 42 pursuant to the bond resolution. The bonds may be issued in registered form and 43 provision may be made for the registration of the principal only. In case any officer 44 whose signature appears on any bond ceases to be such officer before the delivery 45 thereof, such signature shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes as if 46 he had remained in office until such delivery. The bonds and the issuance and sale

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1 thereof shall be exempt from the provisions of Sections 9, 10, and 11 of Article 31 of

2 the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended.

3 The County may enter into agreements with agents, banks, fiduciaries,

4 insurers, or others for the purpose of enhancing the marketability of any security for

 $5\,$  the bonds and for the purpose of securing any tender option that may be granted to

6 holders of the bonds, all as may be determined and presented in the aforesaid

7 resolution, which may (but need not) state as security for the performance by the

8 County of any monetary obligations under such agreements the same security given

9 by the County to bondholders for the performance by the County of its monetary

10 obligations under the bonds.

11 If the County determines in the resolution to offer any of the bonds by

12 solicitation of competitive bids at public sale, the resolution shall fix the terms and

13 conditions of the public sale and shall adopt a form of notice of sale, which shall

14 outline the terms and conditions, and a form of advertisement, which shall be

15 published in accordance with the terms of the resolution in one or more daily or

16 weekly newspapers having a general circulation in the County and which may also be

published in one or more journals having a circulation primarily among banks and
investment bankers. At least one publication of the advertisement shall be made not

18 investment bankers. At least one publication of the advertisement shall be made n

19 less than 10 days before the sale of the bonds.

20 Upon delivery of any bonds to the purchaser or purchasers, payment therefor

21 shall be made to the Treasurer of Calvert County or such other official of Calvert

22 County as may be designated to receive such payment in a resolution passed by the

23 County before such delivery.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the net proceeds of the 24 25 sale of bonds shall be used and applied exclusively and solely for the acquisition, 26 construction, improvement, or development of public roads and facilities for which the 27 bonds are sold. If the amounts borrowed shall prove inadequate to finance the 28 projects described in the resolution, the County may issue additional bonds with the 29 limitations hereof for the purpose of evidencing the borrowing of additional funds for 30 such financing, provided the resolution authorizing the sale of additional bonds shall 31 so recite, but if the net proceeds of the sale of any issue of bonds exceeds the amount 32 needed to finance the projects described in the resolution, the excess funds so 33 borrowed and not expended shall be applied to the payment of the next principal 34 maturity of the bonds or to the redemption of any part of the bonds which have been 35 made redeemable or to the purchase and cancellation of bonds, unless the County 36 shall adopt a resolution allocating the excess funds to the acquisition, construction, 37 improvement, or development of other public facilities, as defined and within the 38 limits set forth in this Act.

39 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the bonds hereby 40 authorized shall constitute, and they shall so recite, an irrevocable pledge of the full 41 faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County to the payment of the 42 maturing principal of and interest on the bonds as and when they become payable. In 43 each and every fiscal year that any of the bonds are outstanding, the County shall

44 levy or cause to be levied ad valorem taxes upon all the assessable property within the

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corporate limits of the County in rate and amount sufficient to provide for or assure
 the payment, when due, of the principal of and interest on all the bonds maturing in
 each such fiscal year and, in the event the proceeds from the taxes so levied in any
 such fiscal year shall prove inadequate for such payment, additional taxes shall be
 levied in the succeeding fiscal year to make up any such deficiency. The County may
 apply to the payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds issued hereunder
 any funds received by it from the State of Maryland, the United States of America,
 any agency or instrumentality thereof, or from any other source, if such funds are
 granted for the purpose of assisting the County in financing the acquisition,
 construction, improvement, or development of the public roads and facilities defined
 in this Act and, to the extent of any such funds received or receivable in any fiscal
 year, the taxes that are required to be levied may be reduced accordingly.

13 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County is further 14 authorized and empowered, at any time and from time to time, to issue its bonds in 15 the manner hereinabove described for the purpose of refunding, by payment at 16 maturity or upon purchase or redemption, any bonds issued hereunder. The validity 17 of any such refunding bonds shall in no way be dependent upon or related to the 18 validity or invalidity of the obligations so refunded. The powers herein granted with 19 respect to the issuance of bonds shall be applicable to the issuance of refunding bonds. 20 Such refunding bonds may be issued by the County in such an amount as shall be 21 necessary for the purpose of providing it with funds to pay any of its outstanding 22 bonds issued hereunder at maturity, for the purpose of providing it with funds to purchase in the open market any of its outstanding bonds issued hereunder, prior to 23 24 the maturity thereof, or for the purpose of providing it with funds for the redemption 25 prior to maturity of any outstanding bonds issued hereunder which are, by their 26 terms, redeemable, for the purpose of providing it with funds to pay interest on any 27 outstanding bonds issued hereunder prior to their payment at maturity of purchase 28 or redemption in advance of maturity, or for the purpose of providing it with funds to 29 pay any redemption or purchase premium in connection with the refunding of any of 30 its outstanding bonds issued hereunder. The proceeds of the sale of any such 31 refunding bonds shall be segregated and set apart by the County as a separate trust 32 fund to be used solely for the purpose of paying the purchase or redemption prices of 33 the bonds to be refunded.

SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the County may, prior to the preparation of definitive bonds, issue interim certificates or temporary bonds, exchangeable for definitive bonds when such bonds have been executed and are available for such delivery, provided, however, that any such interim certificates or temporary bonds shall be issued in all respects subject to the restrictions and requirements set forth in this Act. The County may, by appropriate resolution, provide for the replacement of any bonds issued hereunder which shall have become mutilated or lost or destroyed upon such conditions and after receiving such indemnity as the County may require.

43 SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any and all obligations
44 issued pursuant to the authority of this Act, their transfer, the interest payable
45 thereon, and any income derived therefrom in the hands of the holders thereof from
46 time to time (including any profit made in the sale thereof) shall be and are hereby

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1 declared to be at all times exempt from State, county, municipal, or other taxation of 2 every kind and nature whatsoever within the State of Maryland.

3 Nothing in this Act shall prevent the County from authorizing the issuance and 4 sale of bonds the interest on which is not excludable from gross income for federal 5 income tax purposes.

6 SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the authority to borrow 7 money and issue bonds conferred on the County by this Act shall be deemed to provide 8 an additional and alternative authority for borrowing money and shall be regarded as 9 supplemental and additional to powers conferred upon the County by other laws and 10 shall not be regarded as in derogation of any power now existing; and all Acts of the 11 General Assembly of Maryland heretofore passed authorizing the County to borrow 12 money are hereby continued to the extent that the powers contained in such Acts have 13 not been exercised, and nothing contained in this Act may be construed to impair, in 14 any way, the validity of any bonds that may have been issued by the County under the 15 authority of any said Acts, and the validity of the bonds is hereby ratified, confirmed, 16 and approved. This Act, being necessary for the welfare of the inhabitants of Calvert 17 County, shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes hereof. All Acts and parts of 18 Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed to the extent of 19 such inconsistency.

20 SECTION 10. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take 21 effect June 1, 2001.