
By: **Delegates Walkup, Guns, and W. Baker**
Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2001
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Kent County - Echo Hill Outdoor School**
3 **Improvements**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of
5 \$410,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of Echo
6 Hill Outdoor School, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes;
7 providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that
8 the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; and providing generally for
9 the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
13 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Kent County
14 - Echo Hill Outdoor School Improvements Loan of 2001 in the total principal amount
15 of \$410,000. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State
16 general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and
17 issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State
18 Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

19 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as
20 a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under
21 § 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

22 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the
23 Treasurer and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling,
24 and delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and
25 then shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by
26 the Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
27 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of Echo Hill
28 Outdoor School, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the
29 construction of an addition to Harris Hall, construction and capital equipping of an
30 agricultural demonstration area including a barn, renovation of staff housing
31 facilities, and renovation of nature preserve facilities.

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 \$161,000. 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. No part of the fund may consist of in kind contributions or funds
10 expended prior to the effective date of this Act. The fund may consist of real property.
11 In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets
12 may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter
13 and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2003, to present
14 evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be
15 provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact to the
16 State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan shall be expended for the purposes
17 provided in this Act.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 June 1, 2001.