

SENATE BILL 575

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B2

2001 Regular Session
11r2507
CF 11r2166

By: **Senator Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Charles County - Thomas Stone National Park**
3 **Visitors Center**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$50,000, the
5 proceeds to be used as a grant to the National Park Service for certain
6 development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan
7 proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a
8 matching fund; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds
9 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 Charles
14 County - Thomas Stone National Park Visitors Center Loan of 2001 in a total
15 principal amount equal to the lesser of (i) \$50,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching
16 fund provided in accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by
17 the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a
18 resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance
19 with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article and
20 Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

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

24 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer
25 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
26 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
27 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
28 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
29 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the National Park Service (referred to
30 hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the expansion and capital equipping,
31 including display cases and storage facilities, of the visitors center at Thomas Stone
32 National Park, located in Charles County, Maryland.

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. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
8 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
9 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property or in kind
10 contributions. The fund may consist of funds expended prior to the effective date of
11 this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money
12 or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine
13 the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2003, to
14 present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will
15 be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and
16 the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan
17 equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided
18 in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund
19 certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

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