
By: **Delegates Marriott, Fulton, Gladden, Oaks, Phillips, and Rawlings**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2002
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - The Love Center**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$439,700,
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of Agape Family
5 Empowerment Center, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes;
6 providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that
7 the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; prohibiting the use of the
8 proceeds of the bond sales and the matching fund for sectarian religious
9 purposes; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing
10 the loan.

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

13 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
14 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Baltimore
15 City - The Love Center Loan of 2002 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser of
16 (i) \$439,700 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in accordance with
17 Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of
18 State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public
19 Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of
20 the State Finance and Procurement Article and 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 Board of Directors of Agape Family
30 Empowerment Center, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the
31 renovation of the basement of The Love Center, located at 4650 Reisterstown Road in
32 Baltimore City, for use as a safe place for youth after school, to include an exercise

1 weight room, a video game room, a music room, a library, study rooms, and a culinary
2 arts café, and to be known as the "Chill Station".

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

7 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
8 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
9 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
10 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
11 unappropriated. The fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds
12 expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount
13 of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the
14 Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final.
15 The grantee has until June 1, 2004, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of
16 Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is
17 presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of the matching fund to
18 the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the amount of the matching
19 fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan
20 in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the Board of Public Works
21 shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

22 (6) No portion of the proceeds of the loan or any of the matching funds may be
23 used for the furtherance of sectarian religious instruction, or in connection with the
24 design, acquisition, or construction of any building used or to be used as a place of
25 sectarian religious worship or instruction, or in connection with any program or
26 department of divinity for any religious denomination. Upon the request of the Board
27 of Public Works, the grantee shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Board that none
28 of the proceeds of the loan or any matching funds have been or are being used for a
29 purpose prohibited by this Act.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 June 1, 2002.