

SENATE BILL 64

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B2

2002 Regular Session  
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CF 2lr0473

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Senator Hoffman**

Requested: September 18, 2001

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2002

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - The Hearing and Speech Agency**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$800,000,  
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of The Hearing and  
5 Speech Agency of Metropolitan Baltimore, Inc. for certain development or  
6 improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject  
7 to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; and  
8 providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

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

11 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on  
12 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Baltimore  
13 City - The Hearing and Speech Agency Loan of 2002 in a total principal amount equal  
14 to the lesser of (i) \$800,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in  
15 accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale,  
16 and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board  
17 of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through  
18 8-124 of the State 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 Treasurer  
23 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and  
24 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then  
25 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the  
26 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 The Hearing and  
28 Speech Agency of Metropolitan Baltimore, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as  
29 "the grantee") for the acquisition of land for, and for the planning, design,  
30 construction, and capital equipping of a new building for The Hearing and Speech  
31 Agency of Metropolitan Baltimore, to be used to expand existing programs for

1 children and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing or who have speech or language  
2 disabilities.

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. No part of the fund may consist of real property or in kind  
12 contributions. The fund may consist of funds expended prior to the effective date of  
13 this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money  
14 or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine  
15 the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2004, to  
16 present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will  
17 be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and  
18 the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan  
19 equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided  
20 in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund  
21 certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

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