

SENATE BILL 152

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2002 Regular Session
2r1098
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By: **Senator Hafer**

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2002

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Sacred Heart Hospital**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$545,000,
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of Sacred Heart
5 Hospitals of the Sisters of Charity, Inc. for certain development or improvement
6 purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a
7 requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; prohibiting
8 the use of the proceeds of the sale of the bonds or the matching fund for
9 sectarian religious purposes; and providing generally for the issuance and sale
10 of bonds evidencing 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 Sacred Heart
15 Hospital Loan of 2002 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser of (i) \$545,000 or
16 (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in accordance with Section 1(5) below.
17 This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general
18 obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued,
19 sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance
20 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 Sacred Heart
30 Hospitals of the Sisters of Charity, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the
31 grantee") for the planning, design, renovation, repair, construction, and capital

1 equipping of the emergency department, to be located at 900 Seton Drive in
2 Cumberland.

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 (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
31 effect June 1, 2002.