

SENATE BILL 730

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B2

2002 Regular Session
2lr2360
CF 2lr1892

By: **Senator Hughes**
Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - New Song Center**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$1,000,000,
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of New Song Urban
5 Ministries, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for
6 disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee
7 provide and expend a matching fund; prohibiting the use of the proceeds of the
8 sale of the bonds or the matching fund for sectarian religious purposes; and
9 providing generally for 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 Baltimore
14 City - New Song Center Loan of 2002 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser
15 of (i) \$1,000,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in accordance with
16 Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of
17 State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public
18 Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of
19 the State Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

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

23 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer
24 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
25 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
26 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
27 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
28 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of New Song Urban
29 Ministries, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the acquisition,
30 planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of the New Song Center to be
31 fully utilized by Sandtown Habitat for Humanity staff and homeowners, educational
32 programs of New Song Community Learning Center, the staff and participants of

1 EDEN jobs and New Song Family Health Services, and the children and youth and
2 other programs of New Song Arts, located at 1501 N. Gilmore Street in Baltimore
3 City.

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

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

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

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