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By: **Washington County Delegation**  
Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2005  
Assigned to: Appropriations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Washington County - Discovery Station at**  
3 **Hagerstown**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$30,000, the  
5 proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Discovery Station  
6 at Hagerstown, Inc. for certain development or improvement purposes;  
7 providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that  
8 the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the  
9 encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; requiring the grantee to grant  
10 and convey a certain easement to the Maryland Historical Trust; and providing  
11 generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

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

14 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on  
15 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Discovery  
16 Station at Hagerstown Loan of 2005 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser of  
17 (i) \$30,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in accordance with  
18 Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of  
19 State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public  
20 Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of  
21 the State Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

22 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as  
23 a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under  
24 § 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

25 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer  
26 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and  
27 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then  
28 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the  
29 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable  
30 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Discovery  
31 Station at Hagerstown, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the

1 construction of exhibits and renovation of the Discovery Station at Hagerstown site,  
2 located in Hagerstown.

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. Part of the fund may consist of in kind contributions or funds  
12 expended prior to the effective date of this Act. No part of the fund may consist of real  
13 property. 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, 2007, 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) The proceeds of the loan must be expended or encumbered by the Board of  
23 Public Works for the purposes provided in this Act no later than June 1, 2012. If any  
24 funds authorized by this Act remain unexpended or unencumbered after June 1,  
25 2012, the amount of the unencumbered or unexpended authorization shall be  
26 canceled and be of no further effect. If bonds have been issued for the loan, the  
27 amount of unexpended or unencumbered bond proceeds shall be disposed of as  
28 provided in § 8-129 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

29 (7) (a) Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey  
30 to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of  
31 its interest:

32 (i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust;  
33 and

34 (ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic  
35 structures.

36 (b) If the grantee or beneficiary of the grant holds a lease on the land  
37 and structures, the Trust may accept an easement on the leasehold interest.

38 (c) The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the Trust  
39 and any liens or encumbrances against the land or the structures must be acceptable  
40 to the Trust.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 June 1, 2005.