

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1535

(Delegate Conway)

Appropriations

Budget and Taxation

Legislative Community Initiatives Loan of 2004 - Wicomico County - Boulevard
Theatre Performing Arts Complex

This bill removes the requirement that the Board of Directors of the Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council, Inc., as grantee, grant and convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust for the Wicomico County – Boulevard Theater Performing Arts Complex project in the Legislative Community Initiatives Loan of 2004.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2005.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Removing the requirement for an historic easement would not materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The bill would not affect the finances or operations of Wicomico County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 204 of 2003 authorized \$12,700,000 for community initiative projects approved by the House of Delegates under the Community Based Regional Initiatives Loan of 2004. In addition, Chapter 204 of 2003 authorized \$17,700,000 for community initiative projects under the Legislative Community Initiatives Loan of 2004. Of that, \$12,700,000 was for projects initially approved by the Senate and \$5,000,000 was for community initiative projects as agreed upon by both houses. Chapter 432 of

2004, the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan, modified those amounts to \$15,200,000 for projects initially approved by the Senate and \$2,500,000 for projects initially approved by the House. Of the House total, Chapter 432 authorized up to \$175,000 in matching funds to the grantee for the design, construction, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Boulevard Theatre, located in Salisbury. The matching fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to June 1, 2004. The grantee must grant and convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust.

Background: The Maryland Historical Trust no longer believes that it needs the easement on the property because the theater does not retain enough historic material or enough of the historic floor plan to qualify for listing on the National Historic Register.

The required match for this project has not yet been certified. The Department of General Services is currently waiting for an appraisal report of the real property to be used by the grantee to meet the required match before presenting it to the Board of Public Works for certification.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of General Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 21, 2005
n/ljm

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