
By: **Delegates Howard, Benson, and Vaughn**
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2006
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - Prince George's County - The Life Center**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$3,000,000,
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of SACRED Life, Inc.
5 for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of
6 the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend
7 a matching fund; prohibiting the use of the loan proceeds or matching fund for
8 sectarian religious purposes; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or
9 expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and
10 sale 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 Prince
15 George's County - The Life Center Loan of 2006 in a total principal amount equal to
16 the lesser of (i) \$3,000,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in
17 accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale,
18 and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board
19 of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through
20 8-124 of the State Finance 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 Life,
30 Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the planning, design,
31 acquisition, construction, and capital equipping of The Life Center, located in Largo.

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

5 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
6 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
7 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
8 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
9 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of funds expended prior to the
10 effective date of this Act. The fund may consist of real property or in kind
11 contributions. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what
12 money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall
13 determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1,
14 2008, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching
15 fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this
16 fact and the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of
17 the loan equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes
18 provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching
19 fund certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further
20 effect.

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

29 (7) The proceeds of the loan must be expended or encumbered by the Board of
30 Public Works for the purposes provided in this Act no later than June 1, 2013. If any
31 funds authorized by this Act remain unexpended or unencumbered after June 1,
32 2013, the amount of the unencumbered or unexpended authorization shall be
33 canceled and be of no further effect. If bonds have been issued for the loan, the
34 amount of unexpended or unencumbered bond proceeds shall be disposed of as
35 provided in § 8-129 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

36 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
37 June 1, 2006.