

CHAPTER 103

(House Bill 1401)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – West Arlington Planetarium and Multipurpose Center Loan of 1999

FOR the purpose of amending the Baltimore City – West Arlington Planetarium and Multipurpose Center Loan of 1999 to require that the loan proceeds be encumbered by the Board of Public Works or expended for certain purposes by a certain date; and generally relating to the Baltimore City – West Arlington Planetarium and Multipurpose Center Loan of 1999.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Chapter 292 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999, as amended by
Chapter 333 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2001
Section 1

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Chapter 292 of the Acts of 1999, as amended by Chapter 333 of the Acts of 2001

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

(1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Baltimore City – West Arlington Planetarium and Multipurpose Center Loan of 1999 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser of (i) \$100,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8–117 through 8–124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

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

(3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of the West Arlington Improvement Association of Baltimore City, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the planning, design, repair, renovation, rehabilitation and capital equipping of the historic water tower in the West Arlington neighborhood of Baltimore City, the facility to be used as a planetarium and sky theater, and for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of a multipurpose center at the same site, the center to contain a swimming pool, community room, arts and crafts room, offices, and other appropriate facilities.

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

(5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2003, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

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

Trust; and

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

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

(b) The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the Trust and the extent of the interest to be encumbered must be acceptable to the Trust.

(7) THE PROCEEDS OF THE LOAN MUST BE ENCUMBERED BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS OR EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSES PROVIDED IN THIS ACT NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2009.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor, April 10, 2007.