

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2007 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 1401  
Appropriations

(Delegates Oaks and Rosenberg)

Budget and Taxation

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**Baltimore City - West Arlington Planetarium and Multipurpose Center Loan of 1999**

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This bill extends the deadline to June 1, 2009 for the Board of Directors of the West Arlington Improvement Association of Baltimore City, Inc. to encumber or expend proceeds of the Baltimore City – West Arlington Planetarium and Multipurpose Center Loan of 1999.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2007.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Extending the deadline would not materially affect State finances or operations.

**Local Effect:** The bill would not affect the finances or operations of Baltimore City.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Chapter 292 of 1999, as amended by Chapter 333 of 2001, authorized up to \$100,000 in matching funds for the planning, design, repair, renovation, rehabilitation, and capital equipping of the historic water tower in the West Arlington neighborhood of Baltimore City to be used as a planetarium and sky theater. Funds were also authorized for the planning, design, construction, and capital equipping of a multipurpose center to contain a swimming pool, community room, arts and crafts room, offices, and other facilities at the same site. The grantee was required to present evidence by June 1, 2003

that required matching funds would be provided. The grantee was also required to convey an historic easement to the Maryland Historical Trust.

Chapter 153 of 2003 established a seven-year limitation on the authority to spend an appropriation for a capital expenditure and a seven-year limitation on the authorization for State debt. The Act applies to all debt authorized on or after June 1, 1997.

**Background:** The grantee advises that matching funds are available and will be certified as soon as site control can be obtained from Baltimore City. The grantee has been working with elected officials at various levels of government to expedite this process. Once funds are certified, the grantee advises that Morgan State University will provide assistance in development and completion of the project.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** SB 1001 (Senator Gladden) – Budget and Taxation.

**Information Source(s):** Comptroller's Office, Department of General Services, West Arlington Improvement Association, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 19, 2007  
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