

SENATE BILL 753

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By: **Senator Munson**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2008

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt – Washington County – Conococheague Aqueduct**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$125,000,
4 the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National
5 Historical Park for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for
6 disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee
7 provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the
8 encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for
9 the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

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

12 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
13 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Washington
14 County – Conococheague Aqueduct Loan of 2008 in a total principal amount equal to
15 the lesser of (i) \$125,000 or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in
16 accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale,
17 and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board
18 of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8–117 through
19 8–124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

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

23 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer
24 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
25 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
26 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
27 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National
2 Historical Park (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the planning,
3 design, and repair of Conococheague Aqueduct, located in Williamsport.

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

8 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
9 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
10 matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either
11 directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
12 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property or funds expended
13 prior to the effective date of this Act. The fund may consist of in kind contributions. In
14 case of any dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets
15 may qualify as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter
16 and the Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2010, to present
17 evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be
18 provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact and the
19 amount of the matching fund to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan
20 equal to the amount of the matching fund shall be expended for the purposes provided
21 in this Act. Any amount of the loan in excess of the amount of the matching fund
22 certified by the Board of Public Works shall be canceled and be of no further effect.

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

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

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

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

32 (c) The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the
33 Trust and any liens or encumbrances against the land or the structures must be
34 acceptable to the Trust.

35 (7) The proceeds of the loan must be expended or encumbered by the Board
36 of Public Works for the purposes provided in this Act no later than June 1, 2015. If any
37 funds authorized by this Act remain unexpended or unencumbered after June 1, 2015,
38 the amount of the unencumbered or unexpended authorization shall be canceled and
39 be of no further effect. If bonds have been issued for the loan, the amount of

1 unexpended or unencumbered bond proceeds shall be disposed of as provided in
2 § 8–129 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 June 1, 2008.