HOUSE BILL 658

B2 HB 601/08 – APP CF SB 430

By: Delegates Gilchrist, Simmons, and Barve

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2009

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

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Creation of a State Debt - Montgomery County - Rockville Historic Post Office Renovation

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$600,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rockville for certain development or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; requiring the grantee to grant and convey a certain easement to the Maryland Historical Trust; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

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 Montgomery County Rockville Historic Post Office Renovation Loan of 2009 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser of (i) \$600,000 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

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- delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
- 2 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
- 3 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
- 4 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of
- 5 Rockville (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the design,
- 6 construction, and renovation of the Rockville Historic Post Office, located in Rockville.
 - (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 or in kind contributions. The fund may consist of 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, 2011, 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.
- 26 (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:
- 29 (i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the 30 Trust; and
- 31 (ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the 32 historic structures.
- 33 (b) If the grantee or beneficiary of the grant holds a lease on the land 34 and structures, the Trust may accept an easement on the leasehold interest.
- 35 (c) The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the 36 Trust and any liens or encumbrances against the land or the structures must be 37 acceptable to the Trust.
 - (7) The proceeds of the loan must be expended or encumbered by the Board of Public Works for the purposes provided in this Act no later than June 1, 2016. If any funds authorized by this Act remain unexpended or unencumbered after June 1, 2016,

- 1 the amount of the unencumbered or unexpended authorization shall be canceled and
- 2 be of no further effect. If bonds have been issued for the loan, the amount of
- 3 unexpended or unencumbered bond proceeds shall be disposed of as provided in
- 4 § 8–129 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.
- 5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 6 June 1, 2009.