

# HOUSE BILL 1055

L2

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CF SB 737

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By: **St. Mary's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2017

Assigned to: Appropriations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **St. Mary's County – Bonds and Other Evidences of Indebtedness – Limitations**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain limits on debt in St. Mary's County to reflect the  
4 changes in the computation of assessments as a result of the transition to full value  
5 assessments; subjecting certain bonds and other evidences of indebtedness issued  
6 under the authority of the St. Mary's County Sanitary Commission Act to a certain  
7 limitation; and generally relating to limitations on debt issued under the approval of  
8 the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 The Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County  
11 Section 27–11  
12 Article 19 – Public Local Laws of Maryland  
13 (2007 Edition and October 2014 Supplement, as amended)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
15 The Public Local Laws of St. Mary's County  
16 Section 113–6  
17 Article 19 – Public Local Laws of Maryland  
18 (2007 Edition and October 2014 Supplement, as amended)  
19 (As enacted by Chapter 284 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016)

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

### Article 19 – St. Mary's County

22  
23 27–11.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 A. Unless and until otherwise provided by ordinance of the County  
2 Commissioners within the limitations provided by public general law, the aggregate  
3 amount of bonds and other evidences of indebtedness outstanding at any ONE time may  
4 not exceed [five (5) percent upon the assessable basis of the county] **A TOTAL OF THE SUM**  
5 **OF ONE AND EIGHT-TENTHS (1.8) PERCENT UPON THE ASSESSABLE REAL PROPERTY**  
6 **IN THE COUNTY OTHER THAN THE OPERATING REAL PROPERTY OF A PUBLIC**  
7 **UTILITY AND FIVE (5) PERCENT UPON THE ASSESSABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY AND**  
8 **OPERATING REAL PROPERTY OF A PUBLIC UTILITY.** However, tax anticipation notes or  
9 other evidences of indebtedness having a maturity not in excess of twelve (12) months,  
10 bonds or other evidences of indebtedness issued or guaranteed by the county, payable  
11 primarily or exclusively from taxes levied in or on or other revenues of special taxing areas  
12 or districts heretofore or hereafter established by law, [and] bonds or other evidences of  
13 indebtedness issued for self-liquidating and other projects payable primarily or exclusively  
14 from the proceeds of assessments or charges for special benefits or services, and agreements  
15 or other evidences of indebtedness executed or guaranteed by the county, payable primarily  
16 or exclusively from investment instruments purchased by the county, that are guaranteed  
17 to yield proceeds equal to or exceeding the amount of the county's indebtedness, are not  
18 subject to or to be included as bonds or evidences of indebtedness in computing or applying  
19 the percent limitations above provided.

20 B. All bonds or other evidences of indebtedness issued under the authority of the  
21 Sanitary Commission Act shall be [construed as exempt, under Subsection A above, from]  
22 **SUBJECT TO** the percent limitation **SET FORTH** in **SUBSECTION A OF** this section  
23 [provided but shall continue as heretofore to be subject to the percent limitation as from  
24 time to time provided in said Act].

25 C. All bonds or other evidences of indebtedness issued by the County  
26 Commissioners for the benefit of St. Mary's Hospital of St. Mary's County may not be  
27 included as bonds or other evidences of indebtedness in computing or applying the percent  
28 limitation provided in Subsection A of this section.

29 113-6.

30 A. For the purpose of providing funds for the design, construction, establishment,  
31 purchase or condemnation of water supply and sewerage systems in any of the sanitary  
32 districts, the Commission, upon the approval of the County Commissioners of St. Mary's  
33 County **AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 27-11 OF THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY CODE**, is  
34 authorized and empowered to issue bonds, from time to time, upon the full faith and credit  
35 of St. Mary's County, in such amounts as it may deem to be necessary to carry on its work,  
36 but at no time shall the total issue of bonds for all purposes under this chapter exceed  
37 twenty-five (25) percent of the total value of the property assessed for County taxation  
38 purposes within all of the sanitary districts in which public water or sewer facilities are  
39 located. Subject to the conditions contained herein, the form, tenor, manner of selling and  
40 all other matters relating to the issuance of bonds under this chapter shall be prescribed in  
41 a resolution to be adopted by the St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission prior to sale  
42 of the bonds. [The] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 27-11 OF THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY**

1 **CODE, THE** issuance of such bonds may not be subject to any limitations or conditions  
2 contained in any other law, and the Commission may sell such bonds in such manner, either  
3 at public or private sale, and for such price, as it may determine to be for the best interests  
4 of the Commission and the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County. The bonds shall  
5 be serial bonds issued upon the serial maturing plan and in such denominations as shall  
6 be determined by the Commission. The bonds may be redeemable before maturity at the  
7 option of the Commission at such price and under such terms and conditions as may be  
8 fixed by the Commission prior to the issuance of the bonds, shall bear interest at such rate  
9 or rates payable semiannually, as shall be determined by a resolution of the St. Mary's  
10 County Metropolitan Commission adopted prior to the delivery of the bonds, and shall  
11 mature in not more than forty (40) years after date of issue and shall be forever exempt  
12 from State, City and County taxation as hereinafter provided. They shall be issued under  
13 the signature and seal of the Commission and shall be unconditionally guaranteed as to  
14 payment of both principal and interest by the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County,  
15 a political subdivision of the State of Maryland, which guaranty shall be endorsed on each  
16 of the bonds in the following language: "The payment of interest when due and the principal  
17 at maturity is guaranteed by the County Commissioners of St. Mary's County, Maryland."  
18 Such endorsement shall be signed on each of the bonds by the President and by the Clerk  
19 of the Board of County Commissioners of the County, or another person lawfully assigned  
20 to the functions of the Clerk, within ten (10) days after the bonds are presented by the  
21 Commission to them for endorsement.

22 B. The principal amount of bonds issued hereunder, the interest payable thereon,  
23 their transfer and any income derived therefrom, including any profit made in the sale or  
24 transfer thereof, shall be and remain exempt from taxation by the State of Maryland and  
25 by the several counties and municipal corporations of this State.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 October 1, 2017.