

HOUSE BILL 970

B2

8lr3300

By: **Delegate Lisanti**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2018

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt – Harford County – Aberdeen Proving Ground**
3 **Discovery Preview Center**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$250,000, the
5 proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Aberdeen Proving
6 Ground Centennial Celebration Association, Inc. for certain development or
7 improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a
8 requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a
9 deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; and providing
10 generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

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

13 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
14 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as the Harford County –
15 Aberdeen Proving Ground Discovery Preview Center Loan of 2018 in the total principal
16 amount of \$250,000. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State
17 general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and
18 issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8–117 through 8–124 and 8–131.2 of the
19 State Finance and Procurement Article.

20 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as a
21 single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under §
22 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 and
24 first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and delivering the
25 bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then shall be credited on
26 the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the Board of Public Works, for
27 the following public purposes, including any applicable architects' and engineers' fees: as a

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 grant to the Board of Directors of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Centennial Celebration
2 Association, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as “the grantee”) for the acquisition,
3 planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and
4 capital equipping of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Discovery Preview Center, located in
5 Harford County.

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

10 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
11 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a matching
12 fund of \$50,000. No part of the grantee’s matching fund may be provided, either directly or
13 indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of the
14 fund may consist of funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. The fund may
15 consist of real property or in kind contributions. In case of any dispute as to the amount of
16 the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify as matching funds, the Board of
17 Public Works shall determine the matter and the Board’s decision is final. The grantee has
18 until June 1, 2020, to present evidence satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a
19 matching fund will be provided. If satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify
20 this fact to the State Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan shall be expended for the
21 purposes provided in this Act.

22 (6) The proceeds of the loan must be expended or encumbered by the Board of
23 Public Works for the purposes provided in this Act no later than June 1, 2025. If any funds
24 authorized by this Act remain unexpended or unencumbered after June 1, 2025, the
25 amount of the unencumbered or unexpended authorization shall be canceled and be of no
26 further effect. If bonds have been issued for the loan, the amount of unexpended or
27 unencumbered bond proceeds shall be disposed of as provided in § 8–129 of the State
28 Finance and Procurement Article.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
30 1, 2018.