

HOUSE BILL No. 5411

November 1, 2001, Introduced by Rep. Mortimer and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
by amending section 1225 (MCL 380.1225), as amended by 1997 PA
152.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1225. (1) Subject to restrictions of this section, the
2 board of a local or intermediate school district may borrow money
3 and issue its notes for the borrowed money to secure funds for
4 school operations or to pay previous loans obtained for school
5 operations under this or any other statute. The school board or
6 intermediate school board shall pledge money to be received by it
7 from state school aid for the payment of notes issued under this
8 section. The notes are full faith and credit obligations of the
9 school district or intermediate school district and are payable
10 from tax levies or from unencumbered funds of the school district

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1 or intermediate school district in event of the unavailability or
2 insufficiency of state school aid for any reason.

3 (2) Notes issued under this section shall become due not
4 later than 12 months after the date on which they are issued,
5 except as provided in this section. Except as otherwise provided
6 in this subsection, notes issued within a fiscal year shall not
7 exceed 70% of the difference between the total state aid funds
8 apportioned to the school district or intermediate school dis-
9 trict for that fiscal year and the portion already received or
10 pledged, except secondary pledges made under section 1356. Until
11 June 30, 1999, notes issued and sold to the Michigan municipal
12 bond authority within a fiscal year shall not exceed 70% of the
13 difference between the total state aid funds apportioned to the
14 school district or intermediate school district for that fiscal
15 year and the portion already received.

16 (3) A school district or intermediate school district that
17 is not able to redeem its notes within 12 months after the date
18 on which the notes were issued may enter into a multi-year agree-
19 ment with a lending institution to repay its obligation. A
20 repayment agreement shall not be executed without the prior
21 approval of an authorized representative of the state board or,
22 for notes sold to the Michigan municipal bond authority only,
23 without the approval of an authorized representative of the
24 department of treasury.

25 (4) During the last 4 months of a fiscal year, notes may be
26 issued pledging state school aid for the next succeeding fiscal
27 year. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the notes

1 shall not exceed 50% of the state school aid apportioned to the
 2 school district or intermediate school district for the next suc-
 3 ceeding fiscal year or, if the apportionment has not been made,
 4 50% of the apportionment for the then current fiscal year. For
 5 the 1997-98 fiscal year only, with the approval of the state
 6 treasurer or the department, notes may be issued that shall not
 7 exceed 70% of the state school aid apportioned to the school dis-
 8 trict or intermediate school district for the next succeeding
 9 fiscal year or, if the apportionment has not been made, 70% of
 10 the apportionment for the then current fiscal year. For the
 11 1998-99 fiscal year only, with the approval of the state trea-
 12 surer or the department, notes may be issued that shall not
 13 exceed 60% of the state school aid apportioned to the school dis-
 14 trict or intermediate school district for the next succeeding
 15 fiscal year or, if the apportionment has not been made, 60% of
 16 the apportionment for the then current fiscal year. The notes
 17 shall mature not later than 12 months after the date of
 18 issuance. Notes sold and delivered under this section shall bear
 19 interest at a rate agreed to by the school board or intermediate
 20 school board, which rate shall not exceed the rate provided in
 21 ~~section 1a of chapter III of the municipal finance act,~~
 22 ~~1943 PA 202, MCL 133.1a~~ THE REVISED MUNICIPAL FINANCE ACT, 2001
 23 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 TO 141.2821, and may be made redeemable
 24 before maturity on the terms and conditions provided in the
 25 notes.

26 (5) Notes issued under this section are ~~not~~ subject to the
 27 ~~municipal finance act, 1943 PA 202, MCL 131.1 to 139.3~~ REVISED

1 MUNICIPAL FINANCE ACT, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 TO 141.2821. —A
2 ~~school board or intermediate school board shall not issue notes~~
3 ~~under this section unless it applies for and receives prior~~
4 ~~approval or the school board or intermediate school board~~
5 ~~requests and receives an exception from prior approval pursuant~~
6 ~~to subsections (7), (8), and (9). An application for prior~~
7 ~~approval or for an exception from prior approval shall be made to~~
8 ~~the authorized representative of the state board unless the notes~~
9 ~~are to be sold to the Michigan municipal bond authority. If the~~
10 ~~notes are to be sold to the Michigan municipal bond authority, an~~
11 ~~application for prior approval or for an exception from prior~~
12 ~~approval shall be made to the authorized representative of the~~
13 ~~department of treasury. An order of prior approval issued by the~~
14 ~~authorized representative of the state board or of the department~~
15 ~~of treasury or an order of exception from prior approval issued~~
16 ~~by the authorized representative of the state board or of the~~
17 ~~department of treasury shall show the estimated amount of state~~
18 ~~school aid allocated to the school district or intermediate~~
19 ~~school district for the current fiscal year and, if applicable,~~
20 ~~for the next succeeding fiscal year and payments that have been~~
21 ~~distributed to the school district or intermediate school dis-~~
22 ~~trict before the date of the order. Failure of a school district~~
23 ~~or intermediate school district to receive state school aid does~~
24 ~~not affect the validity or enforceability of a note issued under~~
25 ~~this section.~~

26 (6) A school board or intermediate school board may make
27 more than 1 borrowing under this section during a school year.

~~1 A school board or intermediate school board shall not contest
2 the validity of a note issued by it under this section if an
3 order of prior approval or of exception from prior approval had
4 been obtained from the authorized representative of the state
5 board or of the department of treasury and the school district or
6 intermediate school district has received the principal amount of
7 the note. An order of prior approval and estimated determination
8 of state school aid by the authorized representative of the state
9 board or of the department of treasury is conclusive as to the
10 authority of a school board or intermediate school board to
11 borrow under this section. An order of prior approval shall be
12 signed by the authorized representative of the state board or of
13 the department of treasury.~~

~~14 (7) A school board or intermediate school board may submit a
15 request for an exception from prior approval to the authorized
16 representative of the state board or of the department of trea-
17 sury, as applicable, on a form prescribed by the applicable
18 authorized representative. The request shall be accompanied by a
19 filing fee of \$100.00 for a request relating to notes totaling
20 less than \$500,000.00 or \$400.00 for a request relating to notes
21 totaling \$500,000.00 or more. If the request is not accompanied
22 by the proper filing fee or by other information or materials
23 required by law, the authorized representative of the state board
24 or of the department of treasury shall not consider the request
25 to be complete and may return the request without acting upon
26 it.~~

~~1 (8) Not later than 10 business days after receiving a~~
~~2 complete request and proper filing fee under subsection (7), the~~
~~3 authorized representative of the state board or of the department~~
~~4 of treasury, as applicable, shall issue an order granting the~~
~~5 exception unless the authorized representative finds that 1 or~~
~~6 more of the following conditions exist or have occurred:~~

~~7 (a) For a school district, it appears from the information~~
~~8 submitted by the school district under section 102 of the state~~
~~9 school aid act of 1979, MCL 388.1702, and from other information~~
~~10 available to the department or to the department of treasury that~~
~~11 the school district ended its immediately preceding fiscal year~~
~~12 with a deficit in 1 or more of its funds and does not have a plan~~
~~13 approved under section 102(5) of the state school aid act of~~
~~14 1979, MCL 388.1702, for eliminating the deficit.~~

~~15 (b) The school district or intermediate school district has~~
~~16 failed to comply with the requirements of this section with~~
~~17 regard to an outstanding note issued under this section or a note~~
~~18 issued under this section during the 3 years immediately preced-~~
~~19 ing the date of the request.~~

~~20 (c) The school district or intermediate school district is~~
~~21 in default in the payment of the principal of or interest on any~~
~~22 of its obligations.~~

~~23 (9) If the authorized representative of the state board or~~
~~24 of the department of treasury, as applicable, finds that 1 or~~
~~25 more of the conditions described in subsection (8)(a) to (c)~~
~~26 applies to a request for an exception from prior approval under~~
~~27 subsection (7), the authorized representative may issue an order~~

~~1 denying the request or, if he or she finds that the existence of~~
~~2 the condition is inconsequential to the request, may issue an~~
~~3 order granting the exception from prior approval. If the autho-~~
~~4 rized representative of the state board or of the department of~~
~~5 treasury fails to act on a complete request within the 10-day~~
~~6 period specified in subsection (8), the exception from prior~~
~~7 approval shall be considered to be granted as of the expiration~~
~~8 of the 10-day period.~~

~~9 (10) Subject to the maximum amounts for notes as specified~~
~~10 in subsections (2) and (4), an exception from prior approval,~~
~~11 whether granted by order of the authorized representative of the~~
~~12 state board or of the department of treasury or because of fail-~~
~~13 ure of the authorized representative of the state board or of the~~
~~14 department of treasury to act on the request, is valid for 4~~
~~15 months.~~

~~16 (7) -(11)-~~ In addition to other powers under this section,
17 with the approval of the state treasurer, the board of a local or
18 intermediate school district may obtain a line of credit to
19 secure funds for school operations or to pay previous loans
20 obtained for school operations under this or any other statute.
21 The school board or intermediate school board shall pledge not
22 more than 30% of the state school aid apportioned to the school
23 district or intermediate school district for that fiscal year for
24 repayment of funds received pursuant to a line of credit obtained
25 under this subsection. However, the school board or intermediate
26 school board shall not borrow against the line of credit an
27 amount greater than the difference, as of the date of the

1 borrowing, between the total state school aid funds apportioned
2 to the school district or intermediate school district for that
3 fiscal year and the portion already received or pledged, except
4 secondary pledges made under section 1356. To obtain approval
5 for obtaining a line of credit under this subsection, a school
6 board or intermediate school board shall apply to the state trea-
7 surer in the form and manner prescribed by the state treasurer,
8 and shall provide information as requested by the state treasurer
9 for evaluating the application. The state treasurer shall
10 approve or disapprove an application and notify the school board
11 or intermediate school board within 20 business days after
12 receiving a proper application. If the state treasurer disap-
13 proves an application, the state treasurer shall include the rea-
14 sons for disapproval in the notification to the school board or
15 intermediate school board.