

Act No. 465
Public Acts of 2002
Approved by the Governor
June 21, 2002
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**STATE OF MICHIGAN
91ST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2002**

Introduced by Senator Emmons

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 965

AN ACT to amend 1933 PA 94, entitled "An act to authorize public corporations to purchase, acquire, construct, improve, enlarge, extend, or repair public improvements within or without their corporate limits, and to own, operate, and maintain the same; to authorize the condemnation of property for such public improvements; to provide for the imposition and collection of charges, fees, rentals, or rates for the services, facilities, and commodities furnished by such public improvements; to provide for the issuance of bonds and refunding bonds payable from the revenues of public improvements; to provide for a pledge by public corporations of their full faith and credit and the levy of taxes without limitation as to rate or amount to the extent necessary for the payment of the bonds, or for advancing money from general funds for payment of bonds; to provide for payment, retirement, and security of such bonds; to provide for the imposition of special assessment bonds for the purpose of refunding outstanding revenue bonds; to prescribe the powers and duties of the department of treasury and of the municipal finance commission or its successor agency relative to such bonds and relative to private activity bonds issued by a state or local governmental entity; to provide for other matters in respect to such public improvements and bonds and to validate action taken and bonds issued; and to prescribe penalties and provide remedies," by amending sections 3, 7, 12, 16, 22, 24, 26, 27, 28, and 30 (MCL 141.103, 141.107, 141.112, 141.116, 141.122, 141.124, 141.126, 141.127, 141.128, and 141.130), section 3 as amended by 1992 PA 305, sections 7, 12, and 27 as amended by 1985 PA 26, sections 16, 28, and 30 as amended by 1983 PA 76, and section 24 as amended by 1988 PA 228, and by adding sections 12a and 12b.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 3. As used in this act:

(a) "Public corporation" means a county, city, village, township, school district, port district, or metropolitan district of the state or a combination of these if authorized by law to act jointly; an authority created by or under an act of the legislature; or a municipal health facilities corporation or subsidiary municipal health facilities corporation incorporated as provided in the municipal health facilities corporations act, 1987 PA 230, MCL 331.1101 to 331.1507.

(b) "Public improvements" means only the following improvements: housing facilities; garbage disposal plants; rubbish disposal plants; incinerators; transportation systems, including plants, works, instrumentalities, and properties used or useful in connection with those systems; sewage disposal systems, including sanitary sewers, combined sanitary and storm sewers, plants, works, instrumentalities, and properties used or useful in connection with the collection, treatment, or disposal of sewage or industrial wastes; storm water systems, including storm sewers, plants, works, instrumentalities, and properties used or useful in connection with the collection, treatment, or disposal of storm water; water supply systems, including plants, works, instrumentalities, and properties used or useful in connection with obtaining a water supply, the treatment of water, or the distribution of water; utility systems for supplying light, heat, or power, including plants, works, instrumentalities, and properties used or useful in connection with those systems; approved cable television systems, approved cable communication systems, or telephone systems, including plants, works, instrumentalities, and properties used or useful in connection with those systems; automobile parking facilities, including within or as part of the facilities areas or buildings that may be rented or leased to private enterprises serving

the public; yacht basins; harbors; docks; wharves; terminal facilities; elevated highways; bridges over, tunnels under, and ferries across bodies of water; community buildings; public wholesale markets for farm and food products; stadiums; convention halls; auditoriums; dormitories; hospitals and other health care facilities; buildings devoted to public use; museums; parks; recreational facilities; reforestation projects; aeronautical facilities; and marine railways; or any right or interest in or equipment for these improvements. The term "public improvement" means the whole or a part of any of these improvements or of any combination of these improvements or any interest or participation in these improvements, as determined by the governing body. The definition contained in this subdivision does not broaden or enlarge the extent of a particular public improvement made by a public corporation.

(c) "Borrower" means a public corporation exercising the power to issue bonds as provided in this act.

(d) "Governing body" means for a county, the board of commissioners; for a city, the body having legislative powers; for a village, the body having legislative powers; for a township, the township board; for a school district, the board of education; for a port district, the port commission; for a metropolitan district, the legislative body of the district; for a municipal health facilities corporation, the board of trustees; for a nonprofit subsidiary municipal health facilities corporation, the nonprofit subsidiary board; and for an authority, the body in which is lodged general governing powers. If the charter of a public corporation or applicable law provides that a separate board has general management over a public improvement, "governing body" means, with respect to that public improvement, the separate board, subject to review by the legislative body of the public corporation as the charter or law may provide. Unless the charter or law specifically provides otherwise, the separate board shall adopt the bond authorizing ordinance, but shall not pledge full faith and credit.

(e) "Rates" means the charges, fees, rentals, and rates that may be fixed and imposed for the services, facilities, and commodities furnished by a public improvement.

(f) "Revenues" means the income derived from the rates charged for the services, facilities, and commodities furnished by a public improvement. Revenues include, to the extent provided in the authorizing ordinance, earnings on investment of funds of the public improvement and other revenues derived from or pledged to operation of the public improvement.

(g) "Net revenues" means the revenues of a public improvement remaining after deducting the reasonable expenses of administration, operation, and maintenance of the public improvement.

(h) "Project cost" or "costs" means the costs of purchasing, acquiring, constructing, improving, enlarging, extending, or repairing a public improvement, including any engineering, architectural, legal, accounting, financial, and other expenses incident to the public improvement. Project costs include interest on the bonds, and other obligations of the borrower issued to pay project costs, during the period of construction and until full revenues are developed. Project costs include a reserve or addition to a reserve for payment of principal and interest on the bonds and the amount required for operation and maintenance until sufficient revenues have developed.

(i) "Ordinance" means an ordinance, resolution, or other appropriate legislative enactment of the governing body of a public corporation.

(j) "Approved cable television system" or "approved cable communication system" means a cable television or communication system to which 1 of the following applies:

(i) A municipality acquires or establishes the system either before January 1, 1987 or before a system is established in that municipality by a private person.

(ii) A municipality acquires or establishes the system after a system is established in that municipality by a private person and after approval by a majority of the electors in the affected area of that municipality voting on the question of the sale of revenue bonds to finance the acquisition or establishment of the municipal system.

Sec. 7. (1) For the purpose of defraying the whole or a part of project costs, a public corporation may borrow money and issue its negotiable bonds. The bonds shall not be issued unless and until authorized by an ordinance, which shall set forth a brief description of the contemplated project, the estimated cost of the project, and the amount, maximum rate of interest, and time of payment of the bonds. The bonds shall be serial bonds or term bonds, or a combination of serial and term bonds, and shall be payable semiannually or annually by maturity of serial bonds or maturity or required redemption of term bonds. The last annual principal installment shall be not longer than the estimated period of usefulness of the public improvement for which the bond is issued, but the last installment shall not be more than 40 years from the date of the bond. The bonds shall bear interest, payable as provided in the authorizing ordinance, except that the first interest installment shall be payable not later than 10 months following the delivery date of the bonds. The bonds and coupons shall be substantially in the form provided in the authorizing ordinance and shall be executed in the manner prescribed in the bond, which may be by facsimile signature or signatures. The bonds and the interest on the bonds shall be made payable in lawful money of the United States, and shall be exempt from taxation by this state or by any taxing authority within this state. The public corporation may provide that the redemption of term bonds may be satisfied in whole or in part by the purchase and cancellation of term bonds otherwise required to be redeemed. As used in this subsection, "annual principal installment" means a maturity of serial bonds, an amount of term bonds required to be redeemed in that year, or a maturity of term bonds less amounts previously required to be redeemed.

(2) The principal of and interest on the bonds shall be payable, except as provided in this act, solely from the net revenues derived from the operation of the public improvement purchased, acquired, constructed, improved, enlarged, extended, or repaired from the proceeds of the bonds, as shall be pledged to the bonds in the authorizing ordinance, which may include if the ordinance so provides, net revenues derived by reason of future improvements, enlargements, extensions, or repairs to the improvement, and payments made to the public corporation issuing the bonds by any other governmental entity pursuant to another law of this state or the United States for payment of principal and interest on the bonds, even though the payments are made from or include grants or other funds provided by this state or the United States or the proceeds of taxes levied on taxable property as provided by other law.

(3) As additional security for the payment of bonds that are used to finance the local share of projects that receive more than 25% of financing from federal or state grants or that are being initially purchased, in whole or in part, by the Michigan municipal bond authority created under the shared credit rating act, 1985 PA 227, MCL 141.1051 to 141.1076, or if specifically authorized by another law pertaining to the public improvements for which bonds are to be issued under this act, a public corporation, by majority vote of the elected members of its governing body, may include as a part of the ordinance authorizing the issuance of the bonds a pledge of its full faith and credit for payment of the principal of an interest on the bonds. For bonds issued for airports or airport improvements under the aeronautics code of the state of Michigan, 1945 PA 327, MCL 259.1 to 259.208, a public corporation, by majority vote of the elected members of its governing body, may agree that if funds pledged for payment of bonds are not sufficient to pay principal and interest on the bonds as the bonds become due, the public corporation shall advance sufficient funds out of its general funds for the payment if the proceeds of the bonds are used exclusively within the territorial limits of the county in which the political corporation is located. If a pledge is made, and the net revenues primarily pledged to the payment are insufficient to make a payment, the public corporation shall be obligated to pay the bonds and interest on the bonds in the same manner and to the same extent as other general obligation bonds of the public corporation, including the levy, when necessary, of a tax on all taxable property in the public corporation without limitation as to rate or amount, in addition to all other taxes that the public corporation is authorized to levy, but not exceeding the rate or amount necessary to make the payment. If a public corporation makes payment from taxes or general funds pursuant to a full faith and credit pledge or agreement to advance, it shall be reimbursed from net revenues subsequently received by the public improvement for which the bonds are issued that are not otherwise pledged or encumbered. A bond or coupon issued under this act shall not be general obligation or constitute an indebtedness of the borrower unless its full faith and credit are pledged. Unless a public corporation pledges its full faith and credit for the payment of bonds issued pursuant to this act, or unless otherwise exempt, the amount of the bonds shall not be included in computing the net bonded indebtedness of the public corporation for the purposes of debt limitations imposed by any statutory or charter provisions. Bonds may be made registerable as to principal, or principal and interest, under terms and conditions determined by the governing body of the borrower.

(4) The governing body in the ordinance authorizing the bonds or in an agreement entered into under section 7a(1)(a) may pledge any funds established by the ordinance or agreement for the payment of the bonds or other obligations of the public corporation under the agreement and create a statutory first lien in favor of the holders of the bonds or a party subject to the agreement.

Sec. 12. (1) Bonds issued under this act may be sold at a discount but may not be sold at a price that would make the interest cost on the money borrowed after deducting any premium or adding any discount exceed 10% per annum or the maximum rate permitted by the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821, whichever is greater, and may bear a stated rate of interest or no rate of interest.

(2) A public corporation may sell bonds at a competitive sale or a negotiated sale as determined in the authorizing ordinance. If a public corporation determines to sell a bond at a negotiated sale, the governing body shall expressly state the method and reasons for choosing a negotiated sale instead of a competitive sale in the resolution or ordinance authorizing the issuance or sale of the bonds.

(3) Bonds sold at a competitive sale shall not be sold until notice by publication at least 7 days before the sale in a publication printed in the English language and circulated in this state that carries as a part of its regular service notices of the sale of municipal bonds.

(4) A public corporation shall award a bond sold at a competitive sale to the bidder whose bid meets all specifications and requirements and results in the lowest interest cost to the public corporation, unless all bids are rejected.

(5) A public corporation may accept bids for the purchase of a bond made in person, by mail, by facsimile, by electronic means, or by any other means authorized by the public corporation.

Sec. 12a. (1) Bonds issued under this act for which a municipality pledges its full faith and credit are also subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821, except for part VI and section 503 of the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2601 to 141.2613, and MCL 141.2503.

(2) For bonds issued under this act, the first principal amount maturity date or mandatory redemption date shall be not later than 5 years after the date of issuance and some principal amount shall mature or be subject to mandatory redemption in each subsequent year of the term of the bond.

(3) As used in this section, "municipality" means that term as defined in the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this act, bonds subject to this act are not subject to the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821.

Sec. 12b. The department of treasury is authorized to issue bulletins as necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. A bulletin issued under this section shall include a statement of the department's specific statutory authority for any substantive requirement contained within the bulletin.

Sec. 16. Money received from the sale of bonds shall be used solely for the payment of project costs. An unexpended balance of the proceeds of the sale of any bonds remaining after the completion of the project for which issued, may be used for the improvement, enlargement, or extension of the public improvement, if the use is approved by the department of treasury. Any remaining balance shall be paid immediately into the bond and interest redemption deposit account for the bonds, and the money shall be used only for meeting bond reserve requirements or for the redemption or purchase, at not more than the fair market value, of outstanding bonds of the issue from which the proceeds were derived. Bonds acquired by purchase shall be canceled and shall not be reissued. Each ordinance shall state the period for which interest is to be capitalized, and the amount of reserves to be funded from the bonds. Upon receipt of the proceeds of the bonds, there shall be set aside, in the bond and interest redemption deposit account, the amount of interest that will accrue during the period at the interest rate specified in the bonds and the amount required to be set aside in the bond and interest redemption account. Money set aside shall be used solely for the payment of the capitalized interest or to satisfy bond reserve requirements.

Sec. 22. (1) In the authorizing ordinance the governing body of the borrower shall provide that the revenues of the public improvement be accounted for separately from the other funds and accounts of the borrower in the following order of recorded priority:

(a) After provision for the payment for the next succeeding period of all current expenses of administration and operation and the current expenses for that period for maintenance as may be necessary to preserve the public improvement in good repair and working order.

(b) There shall be next set aside a sum sufficient to provide for the payment of the principal of and the interest upon all bonds payable from those revenues, as and when the bonds become due and payable. This account shall be designated "bond and interest redemption account". In the event that the revenues of any operating year over and above those necessary for the operation and maintenance expenses shall be insufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds maturing in any operating year, then an additional amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest shall be set aside out of the revenues of the next succeeding operating year, after provision for the expenses of operation and maintenance. In respect to the allocation and use of money in the bond and interest redemption account, due recognition shall be given as to priority rights, if any, between different issues or series of outstanding bonds. The public corporation may provide by ordinance that a reasonable excess amount shall be set aside in the bond and interest redemption account from time to time so as to produce and provide a reserve to meet any possible future deficiencies.

(c) Next there shall be set aside, in the manner and priority provided by the ordinance, the sum or sums necessary for the additional accounts as may be required.

(2) Revenues remaining, after satisfaction of subsection (1), at the end of any operating year shall be considered surplus and shall be disposed of by the governing body as provided in this act.

Sec. 24. (1) Money in the several accounts of the public improvement shall be deposited as designated by the governing body of the borrower. Money in the several accounts of the public improvement, except money in the bond and interest redemption account and money derived from the proceeds of sale of the bonds each of which shall be kept in a separate deposit account, may be kept in 1 deposit account. In that case the money in the combined deposit accounts shall be allocated on the books and records of the borrower to the various accounts in the manner provided in the authorizing ordinance. The governing body of the borrower may provide that the money in the several accounts of the public improvement may be kept in separate depository accounts. The money in the bond and interest redemption account shall be accounted for separately.

(2) Subject to the limitations and conditions provided in the authorizing ordinance, money in the several accounts of the public improvement may be invested in accordance with the public corporation's investment policy adopted by the legislative body or governing body of the public corporation under 1943 PA 20, MCL 129.91 to 129.96.

Sec. 26. Any money remaining in the accounts of the public improvement at the end of any operating year, which under the provisions of section 22 shall be considered surplus, may be transferred to other accounts of the public improvement or may be used for the purpose or purposes as the governing body may determine to be for the best interests of the borrower, unless some other disposition shall have been made in the ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds under this act. In the event that money of the public improvement is insufficient to provide for the current expenses of the operation and maintenance account or the bond and interest redemption account, any money or securities in other accounts of the public improvement shall be transferred first to the operation and maintenance account and second to the bond and interest redemption account to the extent of any deficits in those accounts.

Sec. 27. A public corporation issuing bonds under this act is subject to all of the following:

(a) If the public corporation issuing the bonds meets the requirements of qualified status under section 303(3) of the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2303, the public corporation complies with section 319(1) of the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2319.

(b) If the public corporation issuing the bonds does not meet the requirements of qualified status under section 303(3) of the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2303, the public corporation meets the requirements of section 303(7) and (8) and section 319(2) of the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2303 and 141.2319.

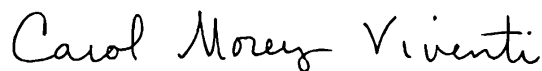
(c) Section 321 of the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2321.

Sec. 28. Qualification or approval to issue obligations under the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to 141.2821, that permits the issuance of bonds under this act shall not be considered an approval of the legality of issuing bonds under this act.

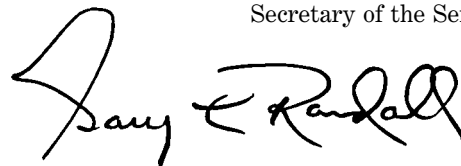
Sec. 30. (1) Any borrower issuing revenue bonds under this act shall install, maintain, and keep proper books of record and account, separate from other records and accounts of such borrower, in which full and correct entries shall be made of all dealings or transactions of or in relation to the properties, business, and affairs of the public improvement.

(2) Each public corporation shall file an audit report annually with the department of treasury within 6 months from the end of its fiscal year or as otherwise provided in the uniform budgeting and accounting act, 1968 PA 2, MCL 141.421 to 141.440a.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Secretary of the Senate.



Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved _____

Governor.