HOUSE BILL No. 5439

January 27, 2004, Introduced by Reps. Shulman and Hunter and referred to the Committee on Great Lakes and Tourism.

A bill to create and provide for the operation of the Michigan port authority; to provide for the creation and appointment of a board to govern the authority and to prescribe its powers and duties; to provide for the powers and duties of the authority; to extend protections against certain liabilities to the authority; to provide for the issuance of certain bonds, notes, and other obligations; to facilitate the use and development of authority property and port facilities; to promote economic growth; to exempt property, income, and operations of an authority from tax; and to provide an appropriation.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Michigan port authority act".
 - Sec. 2. As used in this act:
 - (a) "Authority" means the Michigan port authority created

- 1 under section 3.
- 2 (b) "Authorized purposes" means activities that enhance,
- 3 foster, aid, provide, or promote transportation, economic
- 4 development, housing, recreation, education, governmental
- 5 operations, culture, or research within this state.
- 6 (c) "Board" means the governing body of the authority
- 7 described in section 4.
- 8 (d) "Department" means the department of labor and economic
- 9 growth described in Executive Order No. 2003-18.
- 10 (e) "Develop" means the acquisition, financing, purchase,
- 11 construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, remodeling,
- 12 improvement, enlargement, repair, condemnation, maintenance, or
- 13 operation of port facilities.
- 14 (f) "Fund" means the Michigan port authority fund created in
- **15** section 20.
- 16 (g) "Governmental agency" means a department, agency, or
- 17 commission of this state or of a county, city, village, or
- 18 township of this state.
- 19 (h) "Local unit of government" means a city, county,
- 20 township, or village.
- 21 (i) "Michigan economic development corporation" means the
- 22 public body corporate created under section 28 of article VII of
- 23 the state constitution of 1963 and the urban cooperation act of
- 24 1967, 1967 (Ex Sess) PA 7, MCL 124.501 to 124.512, by a
- 25 contractual interlocal agreement effective April 5, 1999 between
- 26 local participating economic development corporations formed
- 27 under the economic development corporations act, 1974 PA 338,

- 1 MCL 125.1601 to 125.1636, and the Michigan strategic fund under
- 2 the Michigan strategic fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL 125.2001 to
- **3** 125.2093.
- 4 (j) "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,
- 5 limited liability company, association, governmental entity, or
- 6 other legal entity.
- 7 (k) "Port facilities" means real or personal property, or any
- 8 combination of real or personal property, that is owned, leased,
- 9 or otherwise controlled or financed by a port authority and is
- 10 related to, useful for, or in furtherance of, 1 or more
- 11 authorized purposes.
- 12 Sec. 3. (1) There is created by this act a public body
- 13 corporate and politic known as the Michigan port authority. The
- 14 authority shall be located within the department.
- 15 (2) The authority shall exercise its prescribed statutory
- 16 powers, duties, and functions independently of the director of
- 17 the department. The budgeting, procurement, and related
- 18 administrative functions of the authority shall be performed
- 19 under the direction and supervision of the director of the
- 20 department.
- 21 (3) The authority may contract with the department for the
- 22 purpose of maintaining the rights and interests of the
- 23 authority.
- 24 (4) The accounts of the authority may be subject to annual
- 25 financial audits by the state auditor general. Records of the
- 26 authority shall be maintained according to generally accepted
- 27 accounting principles.

- 1 Sec. 4. (1) The authority created under this act shall be
- **2** governed by the Michigan port authority board, which shall
- 3 consist of 7 board members who are residents of this state. Of
- 4 the members first appointed under subsection (2)(d), 2 shall be
- 5 appointed for a term of 2 years and 2 shall be appointed for a
- 6 term of 3 years.
- 7 (2) The members of the board shall be as follows:
- 8 (a) The chief executive officer of the Michigan economic
- 9 development corporation, or his or her designee, as chairperson
- 10 of the authority.
- 11 (b) The director of the department of labor and economic
- 12 growth, or his or her designee.
- (c) The director of the state transportation department, or
- 14 his or her designee.
- 15 (d) Four other members appointed by the governor by and with
- 16 the advice and consent of the senate who are not employed by this
- 17 state and who have knowledge, skill, and experience in economic
- 18 development. Of the members appointed by the governor under this
- 19 subsection, 1 shall be appointed from 1 or more nominees of the
- 20 majority leader of the senate and 1 shall be appointed from 1 or
- 21 more nominees of the speaker of the house of representatives.
- 22 (3) Upon appointment to the board under subsection (2) and
- 23 upon the taking and filing of the constitutional oath of office
- 24 prescribed in section 1 of article XI of the state constitution
- 25 of 1963, a member of the board shall enter the office and
- 26 exercise the duties of the office.
- 27 (4) After the first appointment, each member shall serve a

- 1 term of 4 years, except that a person appointed to fill a vacancy
- 2 shall be appointed for the balance of the unexpired term. The
- 3 governor shall fill a vacancy in the office by appointment in the
- 4 same manner as an appointment under subsection (2). A member of
- 5 the board shall hold office until a successor has been appointed
- 6 and qualified. A member of the board is eligible for
- 7 reappointment.
- 8 (5) Members of the board and officers and employees of the
- 9 authority are considered public servants subject to 1968 PA 317,
- 10 MCL 15.321 to 15.330, and 1968 PA 318, MCL 15.301 to 15.310. A
- 11 member of the board or an officer, employee, or agent of the
- 12 authority shall discharge the duties of the position in a
- 13 nonpartisan manner, in good faith, in the best interests of the
- 14 authority, and with the degree of diligence, care, and skill that
- 15 an ordinarily prudent person would exercise under similar
- 16 circumstances in a like position. In discharging duties of the
- 17 office, a member of the board or an officer, employee, or agent
- 18 of the authority, when acting in good faith, may rely upon a
- 19 majority vote of a quorum of the board, upon the opinion of
- 20 counsel for the authority, upon the report of an independent
- 21 appraiser selected with reasonable care by the board, or upon
- 22 financial statements of the authority represented to the member
- 23 of the board, officer, employee, or agent to be correct by the
- 24 officer of the authority having charge of its books or accounts
- 25 or stated in a written report by the auditor general or a
- 26 certified public accountant or a firm of accountants to fairly
- 27 reflect the financial condition of the authority.

- 1 (6) The board shall elect a vice-chairperson, secretary, and
- 2 any additional officers of the board considered necessary by the
- 3 board from among its members. All elected officers of the board
- 4 shall be elected annually by the board. Members of the board
- 5 shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for
- 6 actual and necessary expenses.
- 7 Sec. 5. (1) Upon the appointment of at least 4 members of
- 8 the board under section 4, the board may hold its first meeting.
- 9 The first meeting of the board shall be held not more than 60
- 10 days after the date the authority is created.
- 11 (2) The board shall organize and adopt its own policies,
- 12 procedures, schedule of regular meetings, and a regular meeting
- 13 date, place, and time. The board shall conduct all business at
- 14 public meetings held in compliance with the open meetings act,
- 15 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. Public notice of the time,
- 16 date, and place of each meeting shall be given in the manner
- 17 required by the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to
- **18** 15.275.
- 19 (3) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or
- 20 retained by the board in the performance of an official function
- 21 shall be made available to the public in compliance with the
- 22 freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.
- 23 (4) A board may act only by resolution. A majority of the
- 24 members of the board then in office, or of any committee of the
- 25 board, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of
- 26 business. The board shall meet in person or by means of
- 27 electronic communication devices that enable all participants in

- 1 the meeting to communicate with each other. A vote of a majority
- 2 of the members of the board serving at the time of the vote is
- 3 necessary to approve the issuance by the authority of bonds, to
- 4 approve or amend the annual budget of the authority. Except as
- 5 otherwise provided in this act, a vote of the majority of the
- 6 board members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present
- 7 constitutes the action of the board or of the committee.
- **8** (5) Before the beginning of each fiscal year, the board shall
- 9 prepare a budget containing an itemized statement of the
- 10 estimated current operational expenses for the operation of the
- 11 authority and development of port facilities in this state, the
- 12 amount necessary to pay the principal and interest of any
- 13 outstanding bonds or other obligations of the authority maturing
- 14 during the ensuing fiscal year or that have previously matured
- 15 and are unpaid, an estimate of the revenue of the authority from
- 16 all sources for the ensuing fiscal year, and other amounts
- 17 necessary to further the purposes of this act. The authority's
- 18 budget shall be funded by proceeds derived from gifts, grants,
- 19 loans, and other aids from any person or the federal government,
- 20 this state, or a local government or any agency of the federal
- 21 government, this state, or a local government.
- 22 Sec. 6. (1) The board may appoint a person, other than a
- 23 member of the board, to serve as director of the authority, to
- 24 whom the authority may delegate any of its administrative powers
- 25 and authorization.
- 26 (2) Subject to the approval of the board, the director shall
- 27 supervise, and be responsible for, all of the following:

- 1 (a) The performance of the functions of the authority under
- 2 this act.
- 3 (b) A regular report describing the activities and financial
- 4 condition of the authority.
- 5 (c) The issuance of bonds and notes approved by the board.
- 6 (d) All other activities or functions that the board
- 7 considers necessary.
- 8 (3) The board may employ legal and technical experts, private
- 9 consultants and engineers, accountants, and other agents or
- 10 employees for rendering professional and technical assistance and
- 11 advice as may be necessary. The authority shall determine the
- 12 qualifications, duties, and compensation of those it employs.
- Sec. 7. Except as otherwise provided in this act, the
- 14 authority may do all things necessary to implement the purposes
- 15 of this act, including, but not limited to, all of the
- 16 following:
- 17 (a) Adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws for the regulation of its
- 18 affairs and the conduct of its business.
- 19 (b) Adopt an official seal and alter the seal at the pleasure
- 20 of the board.
- 21 (c) Sue and be sued in its own name and plead and be
- 22 impleaded.
- 23 (d) Solicit and accept gifts, grants, loans, and other
- 24 assistance from any person or the federal, the state, or a local
- 25 government or any agency of the federal, the state, or a local
- 26 government or participate in any other way in any federal, state,
- 27 or local government program.

- 1 (e) Research and publish studies, investigations, surveys,
- 2 and findings on the developing and operations of port
- 3 facilities.
- 4 (f) Finance, direct, or otherwise aid in the planning,
- 5 construction, and design of port facilities.
- 6 (g) Finance, direct, or otherwise aid in the securing of port
- 7 facilities and surrounding areas in this state.
- 8 (h) Make grants, loans, and investments; guarantee and insure
- 9 loans, leases, bonds, notes, or other indebtedness, whether
- 10 public or private; and issue letters of credit.
- (i) Construct; acquire by gift, purchase, installment
- 12 purchase, or lease; and reconstruct, improve, repair, or equip a
- 13 port facility or any part of a port facility, including related
- 14 infrastructure.
- 15 (j) Borrow money and issue bonds and notes to finance part or
- 16 all of the costs of developing port facilities and secure those
- 17 bonds and notes by mortgage, assignment, or pledge of any of its
- 18 money, revenues, income, and properties.
- 19 (k) Acquire or contract to acquire from a person, a
- 20 municipality, the federal or state government, or an agency of
- 21 the federal or state government, leaseholds, real or personal
- 22 property, or any interest in real or personal property and own,
- 23 hold, clear, improve, and rehabilitate and sell, assign,
- 24 exchange, transfer, convey, lease, mortgage, or otherwise dispose
- 25 of or encumber leaseholds, real or personal property, or any
- 26 interest in real or personal property, as is convenient for the
- 27 accomplishment of the purposes of this act and of the authority.

- 1 (1) Procure insurance against any loss in connection with the
- 2 authority's property, assets, or activities.
- 3 (m) Invest any money of the authority, at the board's
- 4 discretion, in any bond, note, or other obligation determined
- 5 proper by the board, and name and use depositories for its
- 6 money.
- 7 (n) Contract for goods and services and engage personnel as
- 8 necessary and engage the services of private consultants,
- 9 managers, legal counsel, engineers, accountants, and auditors for
- 10 rendering professional financial assistance and advice payable
- 11 out of any money of the authority.
- 12 (o) Charge, impose, and collect fees and charges in
- 13 connection with any transaction and provide for reasonable
- 14 penalties for delinquent payment of fees or charges.
- 15 (p) Indemnify and procure insurance indemnifying any members
- 16 of the board or employees of the board from personal loss or
- 17 accountability from liability asserted by a person on the bonds
- 18 or notes of the authority or from any personal liability or
- 19 accountability by reason of the issuance of the bonds, notes,
- 20 insurance, or guarantees; by reason of acquisition, construction,
- 21 ownership, or operation of a project; or by reason of any other
- 22 action taken or the failure to act by the authority.
- (q) Mortgage or create security interests in a port facility
- 24 or any part of a port facility, or in a lease or loan, or in the
- 25 rents, revenues, or sums to be paid under a lease or loan, in
- 26 favor of the holders of the bonds or notes issued by the
- **27** authority.

- 1 (r) Convey or release a port facility or any part of a port
- 2 facility to a lessee, purchaser, or borrower under any agreement
- 3 after provision has been made for the retirement in full of the
- 4 bonds or notes issued for that port facility under terms and
- 5 conditions provided in the agreement or as may be agreed with the
- 6 holders of the bonds or notes, at any time where the obligation
- 7 of the lessee, purchaser, or borrower to make the payments
- 8 prescribed shall remain fixed as provided in the agreement
- 9 notwithstanding the conveyance or release, or as may otherwise be
- 10 agreed with the holders of the bonds or notes.
- 11 (s) Promulgate rules pursuant to the administrative
- 12 procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328,
- 13 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.
- 14 (t) Do all other things necessary to promote and develop port
- 15 facilities in this state.
- 16 Sec. 8. (1) The authority may acquire real or personal
- 17 property or rights or interests in real or personal property by
- 18 gift, devise, transfer, exchange, foreclosure, purchase, or
- 19 otherwise on terms and conditions and in a manner the authority
- 20 considers proper. The authority may own, lease, convey,
- 21 demolish, relocate, or rehabilitate real or personal property or
- 22 rights or interests in real or personal property, consistent with
- 23 the purposes of this act.
- 24 (2) Real property acquired by the authority by purchase may
- 25 be obtained by any method considered desirable by the authority.
- 26 The authority may purchase real property or rights or interests
- 27 in real property for any purpose the authority considers

- 1 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.
- 2 (3) The authority may acquire real property by condemnation
- 3 as provided in the uniform condemnation procedures act, 1980 PA
- 4 87, MCL 213.51 to 213.75.
- 5 Sec. 9. The authority may control, hold, manage, maintain,
- 6 operate, repair, lease, secure, prevent the waste or
- 7 deterioration of, demolish, and take all other actions necessary
- 8 to preserve the value of property held by the authority.
- 9 Sec. 10. (1) The authority may authorize and issue its
- 10 bonds or notes payable solely from revenues or funds available to
- 11 the authority. Bonds and notes of the authority are not a debt
- 12 or liability of this state and do not create or constitute any
- 13 indebtedness, liability, or obligations of this state or
- 14 constitute a pledge of the full faith or credit of this state.
- 15 All authority bonds and notes shall be payable solely from
- 16 revenues or funds pledged or available for their payment as
- 17 authorized in this act. Each bond and note shall contain on its
- 18 face a statement to the effect that the authority is obligated to
- 19 pay the principal of and the interest on the bond or note only
- 20 from revenue or funds of the authority pledged for the payment of
- 21 principal and interest and that this state is not obligated to
- 22 pay that principal and interest and that neither the full faith
- 23 and credit nor the taxing power of this state is pledged to the
- 24 payment of the principal of or the interest on the bond or note.
- 25 (2) All expenses incurred in carrying out this section shall
- 26 be payable solely from revenues or funds provided or to be
- 27 provided under this act. This act does not authorize the

- 1 authority to incur any indebtedness or liability on behalf of or
- 2 payable by this state.
- 3 (3) Bonds and notes issued under this act are not subject to
- 4 the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101 to
- **5** 141.2821.
- 6 (4) The issuance of bonds and notes under this section is
- 7 subject to the agency financing reporting act, 2002 PA 470, MCL
- 8 129.171 to 129.177.
- 9 Sec. 11. (1) The authority may issue from time to time
- 10 bonds or notes in principal amounts the authority considers
- 11 necessary to provide funds for any purpose, including, but not
- 12 limited to, all of the following:
- (a) The payment, funding, or refunding of the principal of,
- 14 interest on, or redemption premiums on bonds or notes issued by
- 15 the authority whether the bonds or notes or interest to be funded
- 16 or refunded has or has not become due.
- 17 (b) The establishment or increase of reserves to secure or to
- 18 pay authority bonds or notes or interest on those bonds or
- 19 notes.
- (c) The payment of interest on the bonds or notes for a
- 21 period as the authority determines.
- (d) The payment of all other costs or expenses of the
- 23 authority incident to and necessary or convenient to carry out
- 24 its authorized purposes and powers.
- 25 (2) The bonds or notes of the authority shall not be a
- 26 general obligation of the authority but shall be payable solely
- 27 from the revenues or funds, or both, pledged to the payment of

- 1 the principal of and interest on the bonds or notes as provided
- 2 in the resolution authorizing the bonds or notes.
- 3 (3) The bonds or notes of the authority:
- 4 (a) Shall be authorized by resolution of the authority.
- 5 (b) Shall bear the date or dates of issuance.
- 6 (c) May be issued as either tax-exempt bonds or notes or
- 7 taxable bonds or notes for federal income tax purposes.
- 8 (d) Shall be serial bonds, term bonds, or term and serial
- 9 bonds.
- 10 (e) Shall mature at a time or times not exceeding 40 years
- 11 from the date of issuance.
- 12 (f) May provide for sinking fund payments.
- 13 (g) May provide for redemption at the option of the authority
- 14 at any time for any reason or reasons.
- 15 (h) May provide for redemption at the option of the
- 16 bondholder at any time for any reason.
- 17 (i) Shall bear interest at a fixed or variable rate or rates
- 18 of interest per year or at no interest.
- 19 (j) Shall be registered bonds, coupon bonds, or both.
- 20 (k) May contain a conversion feature.
- 21 (l) May be transferable.
- 22 (m) Shall be in the form, denomination or denominations, and
- 23 with such other provisions and terms as are determined necessary
- 24 or beneficial by the authority.
- 25 Sec. 12. (1) The authority may authorize and approve an
- 26 insurance contract, an agreement for a line of credit, a letter
- 27 of credit, a commitment to purchase notes or bonds, an agreement

- 1 to remarket bonds or notes, or any other transaction to provide
- 2 security to assure timely payment of a bond or note.
- 3 (2) The authority may authorize payment from the proceeds of
- 4 the notes or bonds, or other funds available, of the costs of
- 5 issuance, including, but not limited to, fees for placement,
- 6 charges for insurance, letters of credit, lines of credit,
- 7 remarketing agreements, reimbursement agreements, or purchase or
- 8 sales agreements or commitments, or agreements to provide
- 9 security to assure timely payment of notes or bonds.
- 10 Sec. 13. Within limitations contained in the issuance or
- 11 authorization resolution of the authority, the authority may
- 12 authorize a member of the board, the director, or other officer
- 13 of the authority to do 1 or more of the following:
- 14 (a) Sell and deliver and receive payment for notes or bonds.
- 15 (b) Refund notes or bonds by the delivery of new notes or
- 16 bonds whether or not the notes or bonds to be refunded have
- 17 matured or are subject to redemption.
- (c) Deliver notes or bonds, partly to refund notes or bonds
- 19 and partly for any other authorized purpose.
- (d) Buy notes or bonds that are issued and resell those notes
- 21 or bonds.
- 22 (e) Approve interest rates or methods for fixing interest
- 23 rates, prices, discounts, maturities, principal amounts,
- 24 denominations, dates of issuance, interest payment dates,
- 25 redemption rights, at the option of the authority or the holder,
- 26 the place of delivery and payment, and other matters and
- 27 procedures necessary to complete the transactions authorized.

- 1 (f) Direct the investment of any and all funds of the
- 2 authority.
- 3 (g) Approve the terms of a contract and execute and deliver
- 4 the contract subject to the restrictions of this part.
- 5 (h) Approve the terms of any insurance contract, agreement
- 6 for a line of credit, a letter of credit, a commitment to
- 7 purchase notes or bonds, an agreement to remarket bonds or notes,
- 8 an agreement to manage payment, revenue, or interest rate
- 9 exposure, or any other transaction to provide security to assure
- 10 timely payment of a bond or note.
- 11 (i) Perform any power, duty, function, or responsibility of
- 12 the authority.
- 13 Sec. 14. A resolution authorizing bonds or notes may
- 14 provide for all of the following that shall be part of the
- 15 contract with the holders of the bonds or notes:
- 16 (a) A pledge to any payment or purpose all or any part of
- 17 authority revenues or assets to which its right then exists or
- 18 may later come to exist, of money derived from the revenues or
- 19 assets, and of the proceeds of bonds or notes or of an issue of
- 20 bonds or notes, subject to any existing agreements with
- 21 bondholders or noteholders.
- 22 (b) A pledge of a loan, grant, or contribution from the
- 23 federal, state, or local government.
- (c) The establishment and setting aside of reserves or
- 25 sinking funds and the regulation and disposition of reserves or
- 26 sinking funds subject to this act.
- 27 (d) Authorization for and limitations on the issuance of

- 1 additional bonds or notes for the purposes provided for in the
- 2 resolution and the terms upon which additional notes or bonds may
- 3 be issued and secured.
- 4 (e) The procedure, if any, by which the terms of a contract
- 5 with noteholders or bondholders may be amended or abrogated, the
- 6 number of noteholders or bondholders who are required to consent
- 7 to the amendment or abrogation, and the manner in which consent
- 8 may be given.
- 9 (f) A contract with the bondholders as to the custody,
- 10 collection, securing, investment, and payment of any money of the
- 11 authority. Money of the authority and deposits of money may be
- 12 secured in the manner determined by the authority. Banks and
- 13 trust companies may give security for the deposits.
- (g) Vest in a trustee, or a secured party, the property,
- 15 income, revenue, receipts, rights, remedies, powers, and duties
- 16 in trust or otherwise as the authority determines necessary or
- 17 appropriate to adequately secure and protect noteholders and
- 18 bondholders or to limit or abrogate the right of the holders of
- 19 bonds or notes of the authority to appoint a trustee under this
- 20 act or to limit the rights, powers, and duties of the trustee.
- 21 (h) Provide the trustee, the noteholders, or the bondholders
- 22 remedies that may be exercised if the authority fails or refuses
- 23 to comply with this act or defaults in an agreement made with the
- 24 holders of an issue of bonds or notes, which may include, but are
- 25 not limited to, the following:
- 26 (i) By mandamus or other action or proceeding at law or in
- 27 equity, to enforce the rights of the bondholders or noteholders

- 1 and require the authority to carry out any other agreement with
- 2 the holders of those notes or bonds and to perform the duties of
- 3 the authority under this act.
- 4 (ii) Bring action upon the notes or bonds.
- 5 (iii) By action, require the authority to account as if it
- 6 were the trustee of an express trust for the holders of the notes
- 7 or bonds.
- 8 (iv) By action in equity, enjoin any acts or things that may
- 9 be unlawful or in violation of the rights of the holders of the
- 10 notes or bonds.
- 11 (v) Declare the notes or bonds due and payable and, if all
- 12 defaults shall be made good, then, as permitted by the
- 13 resolution, annul that declaration and its consequences.
- 14 (i) Any other matters of like or different character that in
- 15 any way affect the security or protection of the bonds or notes.
- 16 Sec. 15. A pledge made by the authority shall be valid and
- 17 binding from the time the pledge is made. The money or property
- 18 pledged and then received by the authority immediately is subject
- 19 to the lien of the pledge without physical delivery or further
- 20 act. The lien of a pledge is valid and binding as against
- 21 parties having claims of any kind in tort, contract, or otherwise
- 22 against the authority and is valid and binding as against the
- 23 transfers of money or property pledged, irrespective of whether
- 24 parties have notice. The resolution, the trust agreement, or any
- 25 other instrument by which a pledge is created is not required to
- 26 be recorded in order to establish and perfect a lien or security
- 27 interest in the property pledged.

- 1 Sec. 16. The members of the board and any person executing
- 2 bonds or notes issued as provided in this act and any person
- 3 executing any agreement on behalf of the authority is not
- 4 personally liable on the bonds or notes by reason of their
- 5 issuance.
- 6 Sec. 17. The authority may hold, cancel, or resell
- 7 authority bonds or notes subject to or in accordance with an
- 8 agreement with holders of authority bonds or notes.
- 9 Sec. 18. This state pledges to and agrees with the holders
- 10 of bonds or notes issued in accordance with this act that this
- 11 state shall not limit or restrict the rights vested in the
- 12 authority by this act to fulfill the terms of an agreement made
- 13 with the holders of authority bonds or notes or in any way impair
- 14 the rights or remedies of the holders of the bonds or notes of
- 15 the authority until the bonds and notes, together with interest
- 16 on the bonds or notes and interest on any unpaid installments of
- 17 interest, and all costs and expenses in connection with an action
- 18 or proceedings by or on behalf of those holders are fully met,
- 19 paid, and discharged.
- 20 Sec. 19. Notwithstanding any restriction in any other law,
- 21 this state and a public officer, local unit of government, agency
- 22 of this state or a local unit of government, an intergovernmental
- 23 entity created under the laws of this state; a bank, trust
- 24 company, savings bank and institution, savings and loan
- 25 association, investment company, or other person carrying on a
- 26 banking business; an insurance company, insurance association, or
- 27 other person carrying on an insurance business; or an executor,

- 1 administrator, guardian, trustee, or other fiduciary may legally
- 2 invest funds belonging to them or within their control in bonds
- 3 or notes issued under this act, and authority bonds or notes
- 4 shall be authorized security for public deposits.
- 5 Sec. 20. (1) The Michigan port authority fund is created
- 6 under the jurisdiction and control of the authority and may be
- 7 administered for the general operations of the authority and to
- 8 secure any notes and bonds of the authority.
- 9 (2) The authority may receive money or other assets from any
- 10 source for deposit into the fund. The authority shall credit to
- 11 the fund interest and earnings from fund investments.
- 12 (3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year shall
- 13 remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.
- 14 (4) The authority shall expend money from the fund only for
- 15 the authorized purposes provided in this act.
- 16 Sec. 21. The authority created under this act shall be
- 17 exempt from and shall not be required to pay taxes on property,
- 18 both real and personal, belonging to the authority, which is used
- 19 for a public or governmental purpose. Property of the authority
- 20 is public property devoted to an essential public or governmental
- 21 function and purpose. The authority's income and operation,
- 22 including bonds or notes issued by the authority or the interest
- 23 and income derived from the bonds or notes, are exempt from all
- 24 taxes and special assessments of this state or a political
- 25 subdivision of this state.
- 26 Sec. 22. This act shall be construed liberally to
- 27 effectuate the legislative intent and its purposes. All powers

- 1 granted shall be cumulative and not exclusive and shall be
- 2 broadly interpreted to effectuate the intent and purposes and not
- 3 as a limitation of powers.
- 4 Sec. 23. There is appropriated from the general fund for
- 5 initial implementation costs for this act the sum of
- **6** \$100,000.00.

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