SENATE BILL No. 347

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March 25, 2003, Introduced by Senators OLSHOVE, SWITALSKI, SCOTT and GOSCHKA and referred to the Committee on Economic Development, Small Business and Regulatory Reform.

A bill to amend 1975 PA 197, entitled

"An act to provide for the establishment of a downtown development authority; to prescribe its powers and duties; to correct and prevent deterioration in business districts; to encourage historic preservation; to authorize the acquisition and disposal of interests in real and personal property; to authorize the creation and implementation of development plans in the districts; to promote the economic growth of the districts; to create a board; to prescribe its powers and duties; to authorize the levy and collection of taxes; to authorize the issuance of bonds and other evidences of indebtedness; to authorize the use of tax increment financing; to reimburse downtown development authorities for certain losses of tax increment revenues; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state officials,"

by amending section 1 (MCL 125.1651), as amended by 1997 PA 202.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

Sec. 1. As used in this act:

(a) "Advance" means a transfer of funds made by a municipality to an authority or to another person on behalf of the authority in anticipation of repayment by the authority. Evidence of the intent to repay an advance may include, but is

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not limited to, an executed agreement to repay, provisions contained in a tax increment financing plan approved prior to the advance, or a resolution of the authority or the municipality.

(b) "Assessed value" means 1 of the following:

(*i*) For valuations made before January 1, 1995, the state equalized valuation as determined under the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.1 to 211.157.

(*ii*) For valuations made after December 31, 1994, the taxable value as determined under section 27a of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.27a.

(c) "Authority" means a downtown development authority created pursuant to this act.

(d) "Board" means the governing body of an authority.

(e) "Business district" means an area in the downtown of a municipality zoned and used principally for business.

(f) "Captured assessed value" means the amount in any 1 year by which the current assessed value of the project area, including the assessed value of property for which specific local taxes are paid in lieu of property taxes as determined in subdivision (x), exceeds the initial assessed value. The state tax commission shall prescribe the method for calculating captured assessed value.

(g) "Chief executive officer" means the mayor or city manager of a city, the president or village manager of a village, or the supervisor of a township or, if designated by the township board for purposes of this act, the township superintendent or township manager of a township.

(h) "Development area" means that area to which a development plan is applicable.

(i) "Development plan" means that information and those requirements for a development **plan** set forth in section 17.

(j) "Development program" means the implementation of the development plan.

(k) "Downtown district" means **that part of** an area in a business district that is specifically designated by ordinance of the governing body of the municipality pursuant to this act. **A downtown district may include 1 or more separate and distinct geographic areas in a business district as determined by the municipality. If the downtown district contains more than 1 separate and distinct geographic area in the downtown district, the separate and distinct geographic areas shall be considered 1 downtown district.**

(*l*) "Eligible advance" means an advance made before August 19, 1993.

(m) "Eligible obligation" means an obligation issued or incurred by an authority or by a municipality on behalf of an authority before August 19, 1993 and its subsequent refunding by a qualified refunding obligation. Eligible obligation includes an authority's written agreement entered into before August 19, 1993 to pay an obligation issued after August 18, 1993 and before December 31, 1996 by another entity on behalf of the authority.

(n) "Fiscal year" means the fiscal year of the authority.

(o) "Governing body of a municipality" means the elected body of a municipality having legislative powers.

(p) "Initial assessed value" means the assessed value, as equalized, of all the taxable property within the boundaries of the development area at the time the ordinance establishing the tax increment financing plan is approved, as shown by the most recent assessment roll of the municipality for which equalization has been completed at the time the resolution is adopted. Property exempt from taxation at the time of the determination of the initial assessed value shall be included as zero. For the purpose of determining initial assessed value, property for which a specific local tax is paid in lieu of a property tax shall not be considered to be property that is exempt from taxation. The initial assessed value of property for which a specific local tax was paid in lieu of a property tax shall be determined as provided in subdivision (x). In the case of a municipality having a population of less than 35,000 ~~which~~ **that** established an authority prior to 1985, created a district or districts, and approved a development plan or tax increment financing plan or amendments to a plan, and which plan or tax increment financing plan or amendments to a plan, and which plan expired by its terms December 31, 1991, the initial assessed value for the purpose of any plan or plan amendment adopted as an extension of the expired plan shall be determined as if the plan had not expired December 31, 1991. For a development area designated before 1997 in which a renaissance zone has subsequently been designated pursuant to the Michigan renaissance zone act, 1996 PA 376, MCL 125.2681 to 125.2696, the initial assessed value of the development area otherwise determined under this subdivision shall be reduced by the amount by which the current assessed value of the development area was reduced in 1997 due to the exemption of property under section 7ff of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.7ff, but in no case shall the initial assessed value be less than zero.

(q) "Municipality" means a city, village, or township.

(r) "Obligation" means a written promise to pay, whether evidenced by a contract, agreement, lease, sublease, bond, or note, or a requirement to pay imposed by law. An obligation does not include a payment required solely because of default upon an obligation, employee salaries, or consideration paid for the use of municipal offices. An obligation does not include those bonds that have been economically defeased by refunding bonds issued under this act. Obligation includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(*i*) A requirement to pay proceeds derived from ad valorem property taxes or taxes levied in lieu of ad valorem property taxes.

(*ii*) A management contract or a contract for professional services.

(*iii*) A payment required on a contract, agreement, bond, or note if the requirement to make or assume the payment arose before August 19, 1993.

(*iv*) A requirement to pay or reimburse a person for the cost of insurance for, or to maintain, property subject to a lease, land contract, purchase agreement, or other agreement.

(*v*) A letter of credit, paying agent, transfer agent, bond registrar, or trustee fee associated with a contract, agreement, bond, or note.

(s) "On behalf of an authority", in relation to an eligible advance made by a municipality, or an eligible obligation or other protected obligation issued or incurred by a municipality, means in anticipation that an authority would transfer tax increment revenues or reimburse the municipality from tax increment revenues in an amount sufficient to fully make payment required by the eligible advance made by the municipality, or eligible obligation or other protected obligation issued or incurred by the municipality, if the anticipation of the transfer or receipt of tax increment revenues from the authority is pursuant to or evidenced by 1 or more of the following:

(*i*) A reimbursement agreement between the municipality and an authority it established.

(*ii*) A requirement imposed by law that the authority transfer tax increment revenues to the municipality.

(*iii*) A resolution of the authority agreeing to make payments to the incorporating unit.

(*iv*) Provisions in a tax increment financing plan describing the project for which the obligation was incurred.

(t) "Operations" means office maintenance, including salaries and expenses of employees, office supplies, consultation fees, design costs, and other expenses incurred in the daily management of the authority and planning of its activities.

(u) "Other protected obligation" means:

(*i*) A qualified refunding obligation issued to refund an obligation described in subparagraph (*ii*), (*iii*), or (*iv*), an obligation that is not a qualified refunding obligation that is issued to refund an eligible obligation, or a qualified refunding obligation issued to refund an obligation described in this subparagraph.

(*ii*) An obligation issued or incurred by an authority or by a municipality on behalf of an authority after August 19, 1993, but before December 31, 1994, to finance a project described in a tax increment finance plan approved by the municipality in accordance with this act before December 31, 1993, for which a contract for final design is entered into by or on behalf of the municipality or authority before March 1, 1994.

(*iii*) An obligation incurred by an authority or municipality after August 19, 1993, to reimburse a party to a development agreement entered into by a municipality or authority before August 19, 1993, for a project described in a tax increment financing plan approved in accordance with this act before August 19, 1993, and undertaken and installed by that party in accordance with the development agreement.

(*iv*) An obligation incurred by the authority evidenced by or to finance a contract to purchase real property within a development area or a contract to develop that property within the development area, or both, if all of the following requirements are met:

(A) The authority purchased the real property in 1993.

(B) Before June 30, 1995, the authority enters a contract for the development of the real property located within the development area.

(C) In 1993, the authority or municipality on behalf of the authority received approval for a grant from both of the following:

(I) The department of natural resources for site reclamation of the real property.

(II) The department of consumer and industry services for development of the real property.

(*v*) An ongoing management or professional services contract with the governing body of a county ~~which~~ **that** was entered into before March 1, 1994 and ~~which~~ **that** was preceded by a series of limited term management or professional services contracts with the governing body of the county, the last of which was entered into before August 19, 1993.

(*vi*) A loan from a municipality to an authority if the loan was approved by the legislative body of the municipality on April 18, 1994.

(*vii*) Funds expended to match a grant received by a municipality on behalf of an authority for sidewalk improvements from the Michigan department of transportation if the legislative body of the municipality approved the grant application on April 5, 1993 and the grant was received by the municipality in June 1993.

(*viii*) For taxes captured in 1994, an obligation described in this subparagraph issued or incurred to finance a project. An obligation is considered issued or incurred to finance a project described in this subparagraph only if all of the following are met:

(A) The obligation requires raising capital for the project or paying for the project, whether or not a borrowing is involved.

(B) The obligation was part of a development plan and the tax increment financing plan was approved by a municipality on May 6, 1991.

(C) The obligation is in the form of a written memorandum of understanding between a municipality and a public utility dated October 27, 1994.

(D) The authority or municipality captured school taxes during 1994.

(v) "Public facility" means a street, plaza, pedestrian mall, and any improvements to a street, plaza, or pedestrian mall including street furniture and beautification, park, parking facility, recreational facility, right of way, structure, waterway, bridge, lake, pond, canal, utility line or pipe, building, and access routes to any of the foregoing, designed and dedicated to use by the public generally, or used by a public agency. Public facility includes an improvement to a facility used by the public or a public facility as those terms are defined in section 1 of 1966 PA 1, MCL 125.1351, which improvement is made to comply with the barrier free design requirements of the state construction code promulgated under the **Stille-DeRossett-Hale single** state construction code act, ~~of 1972,~~ 1972 PA 230, MCL 125.1501 to 125.1531.

(w) "Qualified refunding obligation" means an obligation issued or incurred by an authority or by a municipality on behalf of an authority to refund an obligation if the refunding obligation meets both of the following:

(*i*) The net present value of the principal and interest to be paid on the refunding obligation, including the cost of issuance, will be less than the net present value of the principal and interest to be paid on the obligation being refunded, as calculated using a method approved by the department of treasury.

(*ii*) The net present value of the sum of the tax increment revenues described in subdivision (z)(*ii*) and the distributions under section 13b to repay the refunding obligation will not be greater than the net present value of the sum of the tax increment revenues described in subdivision (z)(*ii*) and the distributions under section 13b to repay the obligation being refunded, as calculated using a method approved by the department of treasury.

(x) "Specific local tax" means a tax levied under 1974 PA 198, MCL 207.551 to 207.572, the commercial redevelopment act, 1978 PA 255, MCL 207.651 to 207.668, the technology park development act, 1984 PA 385, MCL 207.701 to 207.718, and 1953 PA 189, MCL 211.181 to 211.182. The initial assessed value or current assessed value of property subject to a specific local tax shall be the quotient of the specific local tax paid divided by the ad valorem millage rate. However, after 1993, the state tax commission shall prescribe the method for calculating the initial assessed value and current assessed value of property for which a specific local tax was paid in lieu of a property tax.

(y) "State fiscal year" means the annual period commencing October 1 of each year.

(z) "Tax increment revenues" means the amount of ad valorem property taxes and specific local taxes attributable to the application of the levy of all taxing jurisdictions upon the captured assessed value of real and personal property in the development area, subject to the following requirements:

(*i*) Tax increment revenues include ad valorem property taxes and specific local taxes attributable to the application of the levy of all taxing jurisdictions other than the state pursuant to the state education tax act, 1993 PA 331, MCL 211.901 to 211.906, and local or intermediate school districts upon the captured assessed value of real and personal property in the development area for any purpose authorized by this act.

(*ii*) Tax increment revenues include ad valorem property taxes and specific local taxes attributable to the application of the levy of the state pursuant to the state education tax act, 1993 PA 331, MCL 211.901 to 211.906, and local or intermediate school districts upon the captured assessed value of real and personal property in the development area in an amount equal to the amount necessary, without regard to subparagraph (*i*), to repay eligible advances, eligible obligations, and other protected obligations.

(*iii*) Tax increment revenues do not include any of the following:

(A) Ad valorem property taxes attributable either to a portion of the captured assessed value shared with taxing jurisdictions within the jurisdictional area of the authority or to a portion of value of property that may be excluded from captured assessed value or specific local taxes attributable to such ad valorem property taxes.

(B) Ad valorem property taxes excluded by the tax increment financing plan of the authority from the determination of the amount of tax increment revenues to be transmitted to the authority or specific local taxes attributable to such ad valorem property taxes.

(C) Ad valorem property taxes exempted from capture under section 3(3) or specific local taxes attributable to such ad valorem property taxes.

(*iv*) The amount of tax increment revenues authorized to be included under subparagraph (*ii*), and required to be transmitted to the authority under section 14(1), from ad valorem property taxes and specific local taxes attributable to the application of the levy of the state education tax act, 1993 PA 331, MCL 211.901 to 211.906, a local school district or an intermediate school district upon the captured assessed value of real and personal property in a development area shall be determined separately for the levy by the state, each school district, and each intermediate school district as the product of sub-subparagraphs (A) and (B):

(A) The percentage which the total ad valorem taxes and specific local taxes available for distribution by law to the state, local school district, or intermediate school district, respectively, bears to the aggregate amount of ad valorem millage taxes and specific taxes available for distribution by law to the state, each local school district, and each intermediate school district.

(B) The maximum amount of ad valorem property taxes and specific local taxes considered tax increment revenues under subparagraph (*ii*).