SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 4850

A bill to amend 2005 PA 226, entitled "Michigan tobacco settlement finance authority act," by amending section 8 (MCL 129.268).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 8. (1) The state budget director with the approval of the
- 2 state administrative board may sell to the authority, and the
- 3 authority may purchase, for cash or other consideration and in 1 or
- 4 more installments, all or a portion of the state's tobacco receipts
- 5 pursuant to the terms of 1 or more sale agreements. In the
- 6 alternative, the state budget director with the approval of the
- 7 state administrative board may sell all or a portion of the state's
- 8 tobacco receipts for cash or other consideration to a person or
- 9 persons other than the authority, if the terms of the sale

House Bill No. 4850 (H-1) as amended May 30, 2007

- 1 agreement to sell the state's tobacco receipts are in the best
- 2 interests of this state and the net proceeds of the sale will not
- 3 exceed \$400,000,000.00. If the sale to a person or persons other
- 4 than the authority is in the best interests of this state, the
- 5 state administrative board shall approve the terms of the sale
- 6 agreement. The sale agreement or combined sale agreements shall
- 7 provide for the sale of that portion of the state's tobacco
- 8 receipts sufficient to provide net proceeds to the state in the
- 9 amount of \$400,000,000.00 [\$810,000,000.00], OF which \$400,000,000.00
- 10 shall be deposited to and held, used, and expended by the state
- 11 treasurer in the manner provided for in the Michigan trust fund
- 12 act, 2000 PA 489, MCL 12.251 to 12.256, [\$202,800,000.00 SHALL BE

 DEPOSITED IN THE STATE SCHOOL AID FUND ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 11 OF

 ARTICLE IX OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION OF 1963,] AND THE BALANCE SHALL BE

 13 DEPOSITED IN THE GENERAL FUND.
- 14 (2) Any sale agreement shall provide that the purchase price
- 15 payable by the authority to the state for TSRs shall consist of the
- 16 net proceeds and the residual interests, if any. In addition, any
- 17 sale shall be pursuant to 1 or more sale agreements that may
- 18 contain the terms and conditions considered appropriate by the
- 19 state budget director to carry out and effectuate the purposes of
- 20 this section, including without limitation covenants binding this
- 21 state in favor of the authority and its assignees, including
- 22 without limitation the owners of the bonds and benefited parties,
- 23 including a requirement that the state enforce the provisions of
- 24 the master settlement agreement that require the payment of the
- 25 TSRs, a requirement that the state enforce the provisions of the
- 26 qualifying statute, a provision authorizing inclusion of the
- 27 state's pledge and agreement, as set forth in section 11, in any

- 1 agreement with owners of the bonds or any benefited parties, and
- 2 covenants with respect to the application and use of the proceeds
- 3 of the sale of the state's tobacco receipts to preserve the tax
- 4 exemption of the interest on any bonds, if issued as tax-exempt.
- 5 The state budget director in any sale agreement may agree to, and
- 6 the authority may provide for, the assignment of the authority's
- 7 right, title, and interest under the sale agreement for the benefit
- 8 and security of the owners of bonds and benefited parties.
- 9 (3) A sale agreement may provide that the remedies available
- 10 to the authority and the bondholders for any breach of the pledges
- 11 and agreements of this state set forth in subsection (2) shall be
- 12 limited to injunctive relief and that this state shall be
- 13 considered to have diligently enforced the qualifying statute if
- 14 there has been no judicial determination by a court of competent
- 15 jurisdiction in this state, in an action commenced by a
- 16 participating tobacco manufacturer under the master settlement
- 17 agreement, that this state has failed to diligently enforce the
- 18 qualifying statute.
- 19 (4) The approval of the state administrative board shall be
- 20 made by a resolution adopted by the state administrative board and
- 21 that approval together with the sale agreement made pursuant to
- 22 that approval shall be conclusively presumed to be valid for all
- 23 purposes unless challenged in an action brought in the court of
- 24 appeals within 30 days after the adoption of the resolution. All
- 25 challenges shall be heard and determined as expeditiously as
- 26 possible with lawful precedence over other matters. Consideration
- 27 by the court of appeals shall be based solely on the record before

- 1 the state administrative board and briefs to the court shall be
- 2 limited to whether the resolution conforms to the constitution and
- 3 laws of this state and the United States and is within the
- 4 authority of the state administrative board under this act.
- 5 (5) A sale of all or a portion of the state's tobacco receipts
- 6 to the authority under a sale agreement shall be treated as a true
- 7 sale and absolute transfer of the state's tobacco receipts
- 8 transferred and not as a pledge or other security interest for any
- 9 borrowing. A sale agreement that expressly states that the transfer
- 10 of all or a portion of the state's tobacco receipts to the
- 11 authority is a sale or other absolute transfer signifies that the
- 12 transaction is a true sale and is not a secured transaction and
- 13 that title, legal and equitable, has passed to the authority. The
- 14 characterization of a sale as an absolute transfer by the
- 15 participants shall not be negated or adversely affected by the fact
- 16 that only a portion of the state's tobacco receipts are
- 17 transferred, or by the acquisition or retention by this state of a
- 18 residual interest, or by the participation by any state official as
- 19 a member or officer of the authority, or by whether the state is
- 20 responsible for collecting the TSRs or otherwise enforcing the
- 21 master settlement agreement or retains legal title to the portion
- 22 of the state's tobacco receipts for the purposes of these
- 23 collection activities, or by any characterization of the authority
- 24 or its obligations for purposes of accounting, taxation, or
- 25 securities regulation, or by any other factor whatsoever. A true
- 26 sale under this act exists regardless of whether the authority has
- 27 any recourse against this state, or any other term of the sale

- 1 agreement, including the fact that this state acts as a collector
- 2 of the state's tobacco receipts or the treatment of the transfer as
- 3 a financing for any purpose.
- 4 (6) On and after the effective date of each sale of TSRs, the
- 5 state shall have no right, title, or interest in or to the TSRs
- 6 sold, and the TSRs sold shall be property of the authority and not
- 7 of this state, and shall be owned, received, held, and disbursed by
- 8 the authority and not this state. On or before the effective date
- 9 of a sale described in this subsection, this state through the
- 10 state treasurer shall notify the escrow agent under the master
- 11 settlement agreement that this state has sold all or a portion of
- 12 the state's tobacco receipts to the authority, including, if
- 13 applicable, a statement as to the percentage sold and shall
- 14 irrevocably instruct the escrow agent that, subsequent to the date
- 15 specified in the notice, that portion of the state's tobacco
- 16 receipts are to be paid directly to the authority or the trustee
- 17 under the applicable authority resolution, trust agreement, or
- 18 trust indenture for the benefit of the owners of the bonds and
- 19 benefited parties until the authority's bonds and ancillary
- 20 facilities are no longer outstanding. Once the bonds or ancillary
- 21 facilities are no longer outstanding, an officer or agent of this
- 22 state who shall receive any TSRs shall hold them in trust for the
- 23 authority or the trustee, as applicable, and shall promptly remit
- 24 the same to the authority or the trustee, as applicable.
- 25 (7) The net proceeds and any earnings on the net proceeds
- 26 shall never be pledged to, or made available for, payment of the
- 27 bonds or ancillary facilities or any interest or redemption price

1 or any other debt or obligation of the authority.