

HOUSE BILL No. 6578

November 17, 2010, Introduced by Rep. Durhal and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 2005 PA 226, entitled
"Michigan tobacco settlement finance authority act,"
by amending section 8 (MCL 129.268), as amended by 2008 PA 101.

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

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 ~~\$815,000,000.00~~ **\$1,215,000,000.00**, of which
10 \$400,000,000.00 shall be deposited to and held, used, and expended
11 by the state treasurer in the manner provided for in **SECTIONS 7 AND**
12 **8 OF** the Michigan trust fund act, 2000 PA 489, MCL ~~12.251 to 12.260~~
13 **12.257 AND 12.258, \$400,000,000.00 SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO AND**
14 **DEPOSITED IN THE MICHIGAN MERIT AWARD TRUST FUND CREATED IN SECTION**
15 **2 OF THE MICHIGAN TRUST FUND ACT, 2000 PA 489, MCL 12.252, AND**
16 **HELD, USED, AND EXPENDED BY THE STATE TREASURER IN THE MANNER**
17 **PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 10(F) OF THE MICHIGAN TRUST FUND ACT, 2000**
18 **PA 489, MCL 12.260, \$207,800,000.00 shall be deposited in the state**
19 **school aid fund established by section 11 of article IX of the**
20 **state constitution of 1963, and the balance shall be deposited in**
21 **the general fund.**

22 (2) A sale agreement or combined sale agreements under this
23 section may also provide for refunding, refinancing, and the sale
24 by this state of residual interests sufficient to provide net
25 proceeds to the state in the amount of \$60,000,000.00. Any net
26 proceeds resulting from a refunding or refinancing of bonds issued
27 under this act prior to the effective date of the amendatory act

1 that added this subsection or the sale of residual interests
2 existing on or after the effective date of the amendatory act that
3 added this subsection shall be deposited in the general fund.

4 (3) Any sale agreement shall provide that the purchase price
5 payable by the authority to the state for TSRs shall consist of the
6 net proceeds and the residual interests, if any. In addition, any
7 sale shall be pursuant to 1 or more sale agreements that may
8 contain the terms and conditions considered appropriate by the
9 state budget director to carry out and effectuate the purposes of
10 this section, including without limitation covenants binding this
11 state in favor of the authority and its assignees, including
12 without limitation the owners of the bonds and benefited parties,
13 including a requirement that the state enforce the provisions of
14 the master settlement agreement that require the payment of the
15 TSRs, a requirement that the state enforce the provisions of the
16 qualifying statute, a provision authorizing inclusion of the
17 state's pledge and agreement, as set forth in section 11, in any
18 agreement with owners of the bonds or any benefited parties, and
19 covenants with respect to the application and use of the proceeds
20 of the sale of the state's tobacco receipts to preserve the tax
21 exemption of the interest on any bonds, if issued as tax-exempt.
22 The state budget director in any sale agreement may agree to, and
23 the authority may provide for, the assignment of the authority's
24 right, title, and interest under the sale agreement for the benefit
25 and security of the owners of bonds and benefited parties.

26 (4) A sale agreement may provide that the remedies available
27 to the authority and the bondholders for any breach of the pledges

1 and agreements of this state set forth in subsection (3) shall be
2 limited to injunctive relief and that this state shall be
3 considered to have diligently enforced the qualifying statute if
4 there has been no judicial determination by a court of competent
5 jurisdiction in this state, in an action commenced by a
6 participating tobacco manufacturer under the master settlement
7 agreement, that this state has failed to diligently enforce the
8 qualifying statute.

9 (5) The approval of the state administrative board shall be
10 made by a resolution adopted by the state administrative board and
11 that approval together with the sale agreement made pursuant to
12 that approval shall be conclusively presumed to be valid for all
13 purposes unless challenged in an action brought in the court of
14 appeals within 30 days after the adoption of the resolution. All
15 challenges shall be heard and determined as expeditiously as
16 possible with lawful precedence over other matters. Consideration
17 by the court of appeals shall be based solely on the record before
18 the state administrative board and briefs to the court shall be
19 limited to whether the resolution conforms to the constitution and
20 laws of this state and the United States and is within the
21 authority of the state administrative board under this act.

22 (6) A sale of all or a portion of the state's tobacco receipts
23 to the authority under a sale agreement shall be treated as a true
24 sale and absolute transfer of the state's tobacco receipts
25 transferred and not as a pledge or other security interest for any
26 borrowing. A sale agreement that expressly states that the transfer
27 of all or a portion of the state's tobacco receipts to the

1 authority is a sale or other absolute transfer signifies that the
2 transaction is a true sale and is not a secured transaction and
3 that title, legal and equitable, has passed to the authority. The
4 characterization of a sale as an absolute transfer by the
5 participants shall not be negated or adversely affected by the fact
6 that only a portion of the state's tobacco receipts are
7 transferred, or by the acquisition or retention by this state of a
8 residual interest, or by the participation by any state official as
9 a member or officer of the authority, or by whether the state is
10 responsible for collecting the TSRs or otherwise enforcing the
11 master settlement agreement or retains legal title to the portion
12 of the state's tobacco receipts for the purposes of these
13 collection activities, or by any characterization of the authority
14 or its obligations for purposes of accounting, taxation, or
15 securities regulation, or by any other factor whatsoever. A true
16 sale under this act exists regardless of whether the authority has
17 any recourse against this state, or any other term of the sale
18 agreement, including the fact that this state acts as a collector
19 of the state's tobacco receipts or the treatment of the transfer as
20 a financing for any purpose.

21 (7) On and after the effective date of each sale of TSRs, the
22 state shall have no right, title, or interest in or to the TSRs
23 sold, and the TSRs sold shall be property of the authority and not
24 of this state, and shall be owned, received, held, and disbursed by
25 the authority and not this state. On or before the effective date
26 of a sale described in this subsection, this state through the
27 state treasurer shall notify the escrow agent under the master

1 settlement agreement that this state has sold all or a portion of
2 the state's tobacco receipts to the authority, including, if
3 applicable, a statement as to the percentage sold and shall
4 irrevocably instruct the escrow agent that, subsequent to the date
5 specified in the notice, that portion of the state's tobacco
6 receipts are to be paid directly to the authority or the trustee
7 under the applicable authority resolution, trust agreement, or
8 trust indenture for the benefit of the owners of the bonds and
9 benefited parties until the authority's bonds and ancillary
10 facilities are no longer outstanding. Once the bonds or ancillary
11 facilities are no longer outstanding, an officer or agent of this
12 state who shall receive any TSRs shall hold them in trust for the
13 authority or the trustee, as applicable, and shall promptly remit
14 the same to the authority or the trustee, as applicable.

15 (8) The net proceeds and any earnings on the net proceeds
16 shall never be pledged to, or made available for, payment of the
17 bonds or ancillary facilities or any interest or redemption price
18 or any other debt or obligation of the authority.