#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

### **SESSION 1995**

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### SENATE BILL 1129\*

Short Title: 1996 School Bonds Act.	(Public)
Sponsors: Senators Hobbs, Winner, Conder, Edwards; Plexico, Lucas, Gulley Dannelly, Speed, Cooper, Rand, Little, Davis, and Cochrane.	y, Odom,
Referred to: Education/Higher Education.	

# May 14, 1996

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SCHOOL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION STUDY COMMISSION TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE STATE, SUBJECT TO A VOTE OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE STATE, TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR GRANTS TO COUNTIES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS, IN ORDER TO PROMOTE EQUITY IN LOCAL SCHOOL FACILITIES ACROSS THE STATE AND TO ENABLE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO GIVE LOCAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

 Section 1. Short Title. – This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Public School Building Bond Act of 1996".

- Sec. 2. Purpose. It is the intent of the General Assembly by this act to provide for the issuance of nine hundred fifty million dollars (\$950,000,000) general obligation bonds of the State to facilitate the providing of public school buildings by making grants to counties to provide funds for new public school capital outlay projects.
  - Sec. 3. Definitions. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (1) "Bonds" means bonds issued under this act.

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- (2) "Cost" means, without intending thereby to limit or restrict any proper definition of this term in financing the cost of facilities or purposes authorized by this act:
  - a. The cost of constructing, reconstructing, enlarging, acquiring, and improving facilities, and acquiring equipment and land therefor,
  - b. The cost of engineering, architectural, and other consulting services as may be required,
  - c. Administrative expenses and charges,
  - d. Finance charges and interest prior to and during construction and, if deemed advisable by the State Treasurer, for a period not exceeding two years after the estimated date of completion of construction,
  - e. The cost of bond insurance, investment contracts, credit enhancement and liquidity facilities, interest-rate swap agreements or other derivative products, financial and legal consultants, and related costs of bond and note issuance, to the extent and as determined by the State Treasurer,
  - f. The cost of reimbursing the State for any payments made for any cost described above, and
  - g. Any other costs and expenses necessary or incidental to the purposes of this act.

Allocations in this act of proceeds of bonds to the costs of a project or undertaking in each case may include allocations to pay the costs set forth in items c., d., e., f., and g. in connection with the issuance of bonds for the project or undertaking.

- (3) "Credit facility" means an agreement entered into by the State Treasurer on behalf of the State with a bank, savings and loan association, or other banking institution, an insurance company, reinsurance company, surety company, or other insurance institution, a corporation, investment banking firm, or other investment institution, or any financial institution or other similar provider of a credit facility, which provider may be located within or without the United States of America, such agreement providing for prompt payment of all or any part of the principal or purchase price (whether at maturity, presentment or tender for purchase, redemption, or acceleration), redemption premium, if any, and interest on any bonds or notes payable on demand or tender by the owner, in consideration of the State agreeing to repay the provider of the credit facility in accordance with the terms and provisions of such agreement.
- (4) "Notes" means notes issued under this act.

- (5) "Par formula" means any provision or formula adopted by the State to provide for the adjustment, from time to time, of the interest rate or rates borne by any bonds or notes, including:
  - a. A provision providing for such adjustment so that the purchase price of such bonds or notes in the open market would be as close to par as possible,
  - b. A provision providing for such adjustment based upon a percentage or percentages of a prime rate or base rate, which percentage or percentages may vary or be applied for different periods of time, or
  - c. Such other provision as the State Treasurer may determine to be consistent with this act and will not materially and adversely affect the financial position of the State and the marketing of bonds or notes at a reasonable interest cost to the State.
- (6) "Public School Capital Outlay Projects" means the planning, construction, reconstruction, enlargement, improvement, repair, or renovation of public school buildings, the purchase of land necessary for immediate construction of school buildings, and other related capital outlay projects constituting facilities for individual schools that are used for instructional and related purposes, but not including centralized administration, maintenance, trailers, relocatable classrooms, mobile classrooms, or other facilities.
- (7) "State" means the State of North Carolina.
- Sec. 4. Authorization of Bonds and Notes. Subject to a favorable vote of a majority of the qualified voters of the State who vote on the question of issuing Public School Building Bonds in the election held as provided in this act, the State Treasurer is authorized, by and with the consent of the Council of State, to issue and sell, at one time or from time to time, general obligation bonds of the State to be designated "State of North Carolina Public School Building Bonds", with any additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as provided in this act, in the aggregate principal amount not exceeding nine hundred fifty million dollars (\$950,000,000) for the purposes authorized in this act. These bonds shall be issued within a three-year period.
- Sec. 5. Uses of Bond and Note Proceeds. The proceeds of Public School Building Bonds and notes shall be used for the purpose of making grants to counties for paying the cost of public school capital outlay projects.
- Any additional moneys that may be received by means of a grant or grants from the United States of America or any agency or department thereof or from any other source to aid in financing the cost of any public school capital outlay projects authorized by this act may be placed by the State Treasurer in the Public School Building Bonds Fund or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of the grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

Moneys in the Public School Building Bonds Fund or in any separate fund or account may be invested from time to time by the State Treasurer in the same manner permitted for investment of moneys belonging to the State or held in the State treasury except with respect to grant money to the extent otherwise directed by the terms of the grant, and any investment earnings shall be credited to the Public School Building Bonds Fund or the particular fund or account from which the investment was made.

All moneys deposited in, or accruing to the credit of, the Public School Building Bonds Fund, other than moneys set aside for administrative expenses, including expenses related to determining compliance with applicable requirements of the federal tax law and cost of issuance, shall be used to pay the cost of public school buildings in the manner authorized by this act.

The proceeds of Public School Building Bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for public school capital outlay projects, including the proceeds of any other State bond issues, whether heretofore made available or that may be made available at the session of the General Assembly at which this act is ratified or any subsequent sessions. The proceeds of Public School Building Bonds and notes shall be expended and disbursed under the direction and supervision of the Director of the Budget. The funds provided by this act for public school capital outlay projects shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Controller, which warrants shall not be drawn until requisition has been approved by the Director of the Budget and which requisition shall be approved only after full compliance with the Executive Budget Act, Article 1 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes.

The Director of the Budget shall provide quarterly reports to the State Board of Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the General Assembly on the expenditure of moneys from the Public School Building Bonds Fund. Reports to the General Assembly shall be filed with the Legislative Library, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Fiscal Research Division.

- Sec. 6. (a) Allocation of Proceeds. The proceeds of Public School Building Bonds and notes, including premium thereon, if any, except the proceeds of bonds the issuance of which has been anticipated by bond anticipation notes or the proceeds of refunding bonds or notes, shall be placed by the State Treasurer in a special fund to be designated "Public School Building Bonds Fund". Moneys in the Public School Building Bonds Fund shall be used for the purposes set forth in this act. The proceeds of Public School Building Bonds and notes shall be allocated to counties and expended for paying the cost of public school capital outlay projects, to the extent and as provided in this act and subject to change as provided in this act.
- (b) Small County School System Allocation. The State Board of Education shall allocate the proceeds of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) Public School Building Bonds and notes for grants to counties that have a small county school system, after considering whether the counties demonstrate (i) greater than average school construction needs in that system, (ii) high tax rates, and (iii) limited bonding capacity.

 (\$920,000,000) shall be allocated to each county on the basis of the distribution amounts provided in the following table for the local school administrative units in the State. In the case of a local school administrative unit located entirely in one county, the unit's total distribution amount shall be allocated to that county. In the case of a local school administrative unit located in more than one county, the unit's distribution amount shall be allocated among the counties in which the unit is located in proportion to average daily membership of the unit in each county. A unit's distribution amount allocated to a county may be used only with respect to public school facilities of that unit.

10	Local School	ADM	Low-Wealth	Growth	Total
11	Admin. Unit	Allocation	Allocation	Allocation	Bond
12					
13	Alamance Co.	\$ 5,735,665	\$ -0-	\$ 4,202,077	\$
14	9,937,742				
15	Alexander Co.	1,550,863	2,568,658	632,396	
16	4,751,918			_	
17	Alleghany Co.	908,851	91,149	-0-	
18	1,000,000				
19	Anson Co.	1,352,472	3,628,827	-0-	
20	4,981,300			_	
21	Ashe Co.	1,058,695	1,109,367	-0-	
22	2,168,062		_	_	
23	Avery Co.	1,000,000	-0-	-0-	
24	1,000,000			_	
25	Beaufort Co.	2,337,114	3,675,044	-0-	
26	6,012,158			_	
27	Bertie Co.	1,203,450	4,268,129	-0-	
28	5,471,580				
29	Bladen Co.	1,716,037	3,939,734	127,406	
30	5,783,177				
31	Brunswick Co.	2,865,547	-0-	1,206,881	
32	4,072,428		_		
33	Buncombe Co.	7,485,834	-0-	4,014,443	
34	11,500,276				
35	Asheville City	1,416,469	-0-	189,951	
36	1,606,420				
37	Burke Co.	4,150,060	5,797,439	2,916,436	
38	12,863,936		_		
39	Cabarrus Co.	5,034,135	-0-	6,782,624	
40	11,816,759	4		0	
41	Kannapolis City	1,229,049	243,210	-0-	
42	1,472,259				

	GENERAL ASSE	MBLY OF NOR	TH CAROLINA		1995
1	Caldwell Co.	3,652,102	5,335,955	1,329,654	
2 3	10,317,711 Camden Co.	269 111	1 122 079	192 001	
<i>3</i>	1,674,520	368,441	1,123,078	183,001	
5	Carteret Co.	2,573,903	-0-	1,012,297	
6 7	3,586,200 Caswell Co.	1,063,876	2,975,837	118,140	
8 9	4,157,853 Catawba Co.	4,430,733	-0-	3,655,390	
10 11	8,086,123 Hickory City	1,311,331	-0-	407,699	
12	1,719,030	, ,		,	
13 14	Newton City 838,972	838,972	-0-	-0-	
15	Chatham Co.	2,075,944	-0-	1,797,581	
16 17	3,873,525 Cherokee Co.	1,063,571	2,326,833	23,165	
18 19	3,413,569 Chowan Co.	792,040	1,635,934	-0-	
20	2,427,974	792,010	1,055,751	O .	
21 22	Clay Co. 1,000,000	478,986	430,672	90,342	
23	Cleveland Co.	2,701,897	2,851,328	1,424,629	
24	6,977,854				
25	Kings Mountain	1 275 (7)	1 212 045	505 (40	
26 27	City 3,187,272	1,275,676	1,313,947	597,649	
28	Shelby City	1,040,410	1,077,680	449,395	
29 30	2,567,486 Columbus Co.	2,332,542	6,443,050	-0-	
31	8,775,593	2,332,342	0,445,050	-0-	
32	Whiteville City 3,208,961	849,333	2,359,628	-0-	
33 34	Craven Co.	4,530,081	6,583,734	280,293	
35	11,394,109			·	
36 37	Cumberland Co. 38,038,700	15,676,854	11,170,979	11,190,867	
38	Currituck Co.	910,587	-0-	646,295	
39 40	1,556,883 Dare Co.	1,324,740	-0-	1,728,087	
41 42 43	3,052,827 Davidson Co. 11,782,133	5,490,343	3,521,292	2,770,498	

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA				
Lexington City 1,900,271	945,938	606,862	347,471	
Thomasville City	672,884	432,896	359,053 1,464,833	3
Davie Co.	1,506,980	-0-	676,409	
2,183,389	-,,	·	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
Duplin Co.	2,552,875	5,964,831	924,272	
9,441,978	<i>yy</i>	- 9 9	, ,	
Durham Co.	8,830,687	-0-	2,795,979	
11,626,667	, ,		, ,	
Edgecombe Co.	4,423,967	4,855,361	-0-	
7,279,328				
Forsyth Co.	12,726,588	-0-	8,608,003	
21,334,590				
Franklin Co.	2,095,448	5,261,042	1,702,606	
9,059,096				
Gaston Co.	9,082,104	-0-	1,264,793	
10,346,897				
Gates Co.	600,354	1,925,347	599,966	
3,125,667				
Graham Co.	376,059	1,119,790	-0-	
1,495,850				
Granville Co.	2,244,470	5,025,161	1,790,631	
9,060,263				
Greene Co.	869,446	2,145,293	261,761	
3,276,500				
Guilford Co.	17,893,288	-0-	11,776,934	
29,670,222				
Halifax Co.	1,927,227	5,231,956	-0-	
7,159,183				
Roanoke Rapids				
City	980,680	2,633,802	711,156	
4,325,638	207.20	1 000 01 6	4.40.604	
Weldon City	385,202	1,028,816	143,621	
1,557,639	4 272 126	12.070.271	5.000.005	
Harnett Co.	4,373,136	12,869,371	5,082,335	
22,324,842	2 207 125	501.545	0.5.7.00.4	
Haywood Co.	2,287,135	791,547	857,094	
3,935,776	2 207 020	0	2 22 5 002	
Henderson Co.	3,397,028	-0-	2,335,002	
5,732,030	1 201 570	4 410 710	0	
Hertford Co.	1,301,579	4,419,518	-0-	
5,721,097				

GENERAL ASSEN	MBLY OF NOR	TH CAROLINA		1
Hoke Co. 11,129,108	1,783,691	7,665,977	1,679,441	
Hyde Co. 1,000,000	1,000,000	-0-	-0-	
Iredell Co. 7,569,487	4,446,885	-0-	3,122,602	
Mooresville City	1,041,934	-0-	1,081,792 2,123,725	
Jackson Co. 1,283,327	1,086,427	-0-	196,900	
Johnston Co. 20,422,408	5,341,930	9,217,492	5,862,986	
Jones Co. 1,309,013	478,455	805,077	25,481	
Lee Co. 4,393,967	2,564,151	483,947	1,345,869	
Lenoir Co. 6,936,159	3,192,542	3,743,617	-0-	
Lincoln Co. 7,047,514	2,976,780	1,705,618	2,365,116	
Macon Co. 1,980,205	1,171,757	-0-	808,448	
Madison Co. 2,631,126	794,174	1,686,382	150,571	
Martin Co. 4,591,446	1,525,874	2,875,621	189,951	
McDowell Co. 5,634,784	1,878,468	3,756,317	-0-	
Mecklenburg Co. 62,168,638	28,264,782	-0-	33,903,856	
Mitchell Co. 1,930,618	718,291	1,212,327	-0-	
Montgomery Co. 4,415,968	1,320,778	2,696,756	398,433	
Moore Co. 5,503,038	3,188,885	-0-	2,314,154	
Nash Co. 15,027,619	5,455,906	7,653,676	1,918,037	
New Hanover Co. 10,548,679	6,478,641	-0-	4,070,038	
Northampton Co. 4,964,401	1,162,005	3,719,003	83,393	
Onslow Co. 29,208,535	6,275,679	19,983,990	2,948,866	

	GENERAL ASSE	MBLY OF NOR	TH CAROLINA		1995
1 2	Orange Co. 3,101,095	1,764,492	-0-	1,336,603	
3	Chapel				
4 5	Hill-Carrboro 5,705,113	2,496,802	-0-	3,208,311	
6	Pamlico Co.	636,619	1,226,711	30,114	
7 8	1,893,444 Pasquotank Co.	1,905,590	4,223,352	748,220	
9	6,877,162 Pender Co.	1,813,252	2,957,863	2,022,278	
11 12	6,793,393 Perquimans Co.	585,421	1,551,196	9,266	
13 14	2,145,883 Person Co.	1,692,266	431,045	824,663	
15 16	2,947,975 Pitt Co.	5,915,162	5,709,923	3,254,640	
17 18	14,879,725 Polk Co.	814,683	-0-	185,318	
19 20	1,000,000 Randolph Co.	4,743,405	4,811,668	3,724,884	
21 22	13,279,956 Asheboro City	1,252,820	1,235,077	924,272	
23 24	3,412,168 Richmond Co.	2,548,304	7,495,136	363,686	
<ul><li>25</li><li>26</li></ul>	10,407,126 Robeson Co.	7,059,186	24,938,179	1,223,096	
27 28	33,220,461 Rockingham Co.	4,345,404	4,393,896	310,407	
29 30	9,049,707 Rowan Co.	5,897,181	4,544,389	5,601,225	
31 32	16,042,795 Rutherford Co.	3,090,146	4,156,637	780,650	
33 34	8,027,434 Sampson Co.	2,229,537	4,107,442	1,776,733	
35 36	8,113,712 Clinton City	782,289	1,495,425	-0-	
37 38	2,277,714 Scotland Co.	2,200,891	5,739,431	-0-	
39 40	7,940,322 Stanly Co.	2,253,003	3,461,105	1,169,817	
41 42 43	6,883,925 Albemarle City 2,100,642	671,970	1,016,341	412,332	

GENERAL ASSI	EMBLY OF NO	RTH CAROLINA	1	1995
Stokes Co.	2,058,574	2,027,740	697,258	
4,783,572				
Surry Co.	2,417,262	2,115,798	1,225,413	
5,758,473				
Elkin City	323,643	281,580	176,052	
781,275				
Mount Airy City	621,991	524,801	231,647	
1,378,439				
Swain Co.	504,663	1,662,573	176,052	
2,343,288				
Transylvania Co.	1,206,193	-0-	145,938 1,352,131	
Tyrrell Co.	291,447	567,248	141,305	
1,000,000	,	,	,	
Union Co.	5,767,054	3,218,683	5,374,211	
14,359,948	, ,	, ,	,	
Vance Co.	2,264,279	4,345,838	773,701	
7,383,817	_,,,	1,0 10,000		
Wake Co.	26,153,791	-0-	37,825,640	
63,979,431	20,100,791	v	27,622,610	
Warren Co.	961,480	2,885,130	284,926	
4,131,536	y 01, 100	2,000,100	201,520	
Washington Co.	793,564	2,133,723	-0-	
2,927,288	775,501	2,133,723	O .	
Watauga Co.	1,503,627	-0-	495,725	
1,999,352	1,303,027	O	173,723	
Wayne Co.	5,813,376	12,332,062	1,575,200	
19,720,638	3,013,370	12,332,002	1,373,200	
Wilkes Co.	3,021,578	4,341,780	55,595	
7,418,954	3,021,376	4,541,700	33,373	
Wilson Co.	2 722 860	2 512 000	1,155,919	
	3,732,860	2,512,099	1,133,919	
7,400,878	1 664 220	2 457 707	1 160 552	
Yadkin Co.	1,664,230	2,457,797	1,160,552	
5,282,578	754 252	1 100 425	110 140	
Yancey Co.	754,252	1,109,435	118,140	
1,981,827				
GRAND	<b>#2</b> CO OOO OOO	<b>#222</b> 000 000	<b>#220</b> 000 000	
<u>TOTAL</u>	\$368,000,000	<u>\$322,000,000</u>	\$230,000,000	
	<u>\$920,000,000</u>			

If two or more local school administrative units are consolidated into one unit, the distribution amounts provided above for the units shall be considered the distribution amount for the merged unit.

(d) Match. – A county is not required to match bond proceeds allocated under subsection (b) of this section. A county is not required to match bond proceeds allocated

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 under subsection (c) of this section on the basis of ability to pay. Bond proceeds allocated under subsection (c) of this section on the basis of high growth and the basis of average daily membership must be matched by the county at the rate of matching funds equal to three cents (3¢) times the county's ability to pay rank for every one dollar (\$1.00) of allocated bond proceeds. A county's ability to pay rank is its rank in the ranking of counties from lowest to highest county wealth as a percentage of State average wealth made by the State Board of Education for the 1995-96 fiscal year pursuant to Section 17.1 of Chapter 507 of the 1995 Session Laws. The match requirement may be satisfied by non-State expenditures for public school capital outlay projects made on or after January 1, 1992. A non-State expenditure has been made for the purpose of the match if funds have been budgeted, earmarked, or committed or if debt has been authorized or incurred.

As local school administrative units satisfy the match requirements of this section, they shall document the extent to which they have done so in periodic reports to the State Board of Education. These reports shall include any information and documentation required by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall certify to the State Treasurer from time to time the extent to which the match requirements of this section have been met with respect to each local school administrative unit; this certification shall be binding and conclusive. Bond proceeds shall be distributed for expenditure only as, and to the extent, the matching requirements of this section are satisfied, as certified by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall also require counties to report annually on the impact of funds provided under this act on the property tax rate for that year. These reports shall be public documents and shall be furnished to any citizen upon request.

(e) Unmatched Proceeds. – If the State Board of Education determines that a county has not met the matching requirements of this section by January 1, 2002, with respect to any bond proceeds allocated under subsection (c) of this section, the State Board of Education shall certify that fact to the State Treasurer by March 1, 2002. All of the bond proceeds that are to be allocated on the basis of high growth under subsection (c) of this section and with respect to which the State Board of Education certifies that the matching requirement has not been met by January 1, 2002, shall be reallocated among the remaining counties that were eligible to receive a primary allocation on the basis of high growth in proportion to those eligible counties. All of the bond proceeds that are to be allocated on the basis of average daily membership under subsection (c) of this section and with respect to which the State Board of Education certifies that the matching requirement has not been met by January 1, 2002, shall be reallocated among the remaining counties on the basis of average daily membership of the local school administrative units within the remaining counties. Bond proceeds reallocated to a county because of a local school administrative unit's average daily membership within the county may be used only with respect to public school facilities of that unit. Bond proceeds reallocated to a county under this subsection must be matched at the same rate as bond proceeds allocated to the county under subsection (d) of this section.

 (f) Administration. – Funds disbursed under this act shall be administered and supervised by the State Board of Education and shall be used only for the purposes provided in this act. Each school administrative unit shall submit to the State Board of Education its plans for the expenditure of funds allocated under this act. After the State Board of Education determines that a school administrative unit's planned expenditure of part or all of the funds allocated to it is within the purposes provided in this act, the State Board of Education shall make the funds to which the plans apply available to the school administrative unit.

Allocations to the costs of a capital improvement or undertaking in each case may include allocations to pay the costs set forth in Section 3(2)c., d., e., f., and g. of this act in connection with the issuance of bonds for that capital improvement or undertaking.

Sec. 7. Election. – The question of the issuance of the bonds authorized by this act shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at a statewide election to be held on a date set by the General Assembly. Any other primary, election, or referendum validly called or scheduled by law at the time the election on the bond question provided for in this section is held, may be held as called or scheduled. Notice of the election shall be given in the manner and at the times required by G.S. 163-33(8). The election and the registration of voters therefor shall be held under and in accordance with the general laws of the State. Absentee ballots shall be authorized in the election.

The State Board of Elections shall reimburse the counties of the State for all necessary expenses incurred in holding the election that are in addition to those that would have otherwise been incurred, the same to be paid out of the Contingency and Emergency Fund or other funds available to the State Board of Elections.

Ballots, voting systems authorized by Article 14 of Chapter 163 of the General Statues, or both may be used in accordance with rules prescribed by the State Board of Elections. The bond question to be used in the ballots or voting systems shall be in substantially the following form:

# "[]FOR []AGAINST

The issuance of nine hundred fifty million dollars (\$950,000,000) State of North Carolina Public School Building Bonds constituting general obligation bonds of the State secured by a pledge of the faith and credit and taxing power of the State for the purpose of providing funds to counties, with any other available funds, to pay the cost of public school building capital improvements."

If a majority of those voting on the Public School Building Bond question in the election vote in favor of the issuance of the bonds, the bonds may be issued as provided in this act. If a majority of those voting on the Public School Building Bond question in the election vote against the issuance of the bonds, the bonds shall not be issued.

The results of the election shall be canvassed and declared as provided by law for elections for State officers; the results of the election shall be certified by the State Board of Elections to the Secretary of State, in the manner and at the time provided by the general election laws of the State.

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- Sec. 8. Issuance of Bonds and Notes. (a) Terms and Conditions. Bonds or notes may bear such date or dates, may be serial or term bonds or notes, or any combination thereof, may mature in such amounts and at such time or times, not exceeding 40 years from their date or dates, may be payable at such place or places, either within or without the United States of America, in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment is legal tender for payment of public and private debts, may bear interest at such rate or rates, which may vary from time to time, and may be made redeemable before maturity, at the option of the State or otherwise as may be provided by the State, at such price or prices, including a price less than the face amount of the bonds or notes, and under such terms and conditions, all as may be determined by the State Treasurer, by and with the consent of the Council of State.
- Signatures; Form and Denomination; Registration. Bonds or notes may be issued as certificated or uncertificated obligations. If issued as certificated obligations, bonds or notes shall be signed on behalf of the State by the Governor or shall bear his facsimile signature, shall be signed by the State Treasurer or shall bear his facsimile signature, and shall bear the Great Seal of the State or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed or imprinted thereon. If bonds or notes bear the facsimile signatures of the Governor and the State Treasurer, the bonds or notes shall also bear a manual signature which may be that of a bond registrar, trustee, paying agent, or designated assistant of the State Treasurer. Should any officer whose signature or facsimile signature appears on bonds or notes cease to be such officer before the delivery of the bonds or notes, the signature or facsimile signature shall nevertheless have the same validity for all purposes as if the officer had remained in office until delivery and bonds or notes may bear the facsimile signatures of persons who at the actual time of the execution of the bonds or notes shall be the proper officers to sign any bond or note although at the date of the bond or note such persons may not have been such officers. The form and denomination of bonds or notes, including the provisions with respect to registration of the bonds or notes and any system for their registration, shall be as the State Treasurer may determine in conformity with this act; provided, however, that nothing in this act shall prohibit the State Treasurer from proceeding, with respect to the issuance and form of the bonds or notes, under the provisions of Chapter 159E of the General Statutes, the Registered Public Obligations Act, as well as under this act.
- (c) Manner of Sale; Expenses. Subject to determination by the Council of State as to the manner in which bonds or notes shall be offered for sale, whether at public or private sale, whether within or without the United States of America, and whether by publishing notices in certain newspapers and financial journals, mailing notices, inviting bids by correspondence, negotiating contracts of purchase or otherwise, the State Treasurer is authorized to sell bonds or notes at one time or from time to time at such rate or rates of interest, which may vary from time to time, and at such price or prices, including a price less than the face amount of the bonds or the notes, as the State Treasurer may determine. All expenses incurred in preparation, sale, and issuance of bonds or notes shall be paid by the State Treasurer from the proceeds of bonds or notes or other available moneys.

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- (d) Notes; Repayment.
  - By and with the consent of the Council of State, the State Treasurer is hereby authorized to borrow money and to execute and issue notes of the State for the same, but only in the following circumstances and under the following conditions:
    - For anticipating the sale of bonds to the issuance of which the a. Council of State shall have given consent, if the State Treasurer shall deem it advisable to postpone the issuance of the bonds;
    - b. For the payment of interest on or any installment of principal of any bonds then outstanding, if there shall not be sufficient funds in the State treasury with which to pay the interest or installment of principal as they respectively become due;
    - For the renewal of any loan evidenced by notes herein c. authorized:
    - d. For the purposes authorized in this act; and
    - For refunding bonds or notes as herein authorized. e.
  - Funds derived from the sale of bonds or notes may be used in the (2) payment of any bond anticipation notes issued under this act. Funds provided by the General Assembly for the payment of interest on or principal of bonds shall be used in paying the interest on or principal of any notes and any renewals thereof, the proceeds of which shall have been used in paying interest on or principal of the bonds.
- (e) Refunding Bonds and Notes. By and with the consent of the Council of State, the State Treasurer is authorized to issue and sell refunding bonds and notes pursuant to the provisions of the State Refunding Bond Act for the purpose of refunding bonds or notes issued pursuant to this act. The refunding bonds and notes may be combined with any other issues of State bonds and notes similarly secured.
- (f) Tax Exemption. Bonds and notes shall be exempt from all State, county, and municipal taxation or assessment, direct or indirect, general or special, whether imposed for the purpose of general revenue or otherwise, excluding inheritance and gift taxes, income taxes on the gain from the transfer of bonds and notes, and franchise taxes. The interest on bonds and notes shall not be subject to taxation as to income.
- (g) Investment Eligibility. Bonds and notes are hereby made securities in which all public officers, agencies, and public bodies of the State and its political subdivisions, all insurance companies, trust companies, investment companies, banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, credit unions, pension or retirement funds, other financial institutions engaged in business in the State, executors, administrators, trustees, and other fiduciaries may properly and legally invest funds, including capital in their control or belonging to them. Bonds and notes are hereby made securities which may properly and legally be deposited with and received by any officer or agency of the State or political subdivision of the State for any purpose for which the deposit of bonds. notes, or obligations of the State or any political subdivision is now or may hereafter be authorized by law.

- (h) Faith and Credit. The faith and credit and taxing power of the State are hereby pledged for the payment of the principal of and the interest on bonds and notes.
- Sec. 9. Variable Interest Rates. In fixing the details of bonds and notes, the State Treasurer may provide that any of the bonds or notes may:
  - Be made payable from time to time on demand or tender for purchase by the owner thereof provided a credit facility supports the bonds or notes, unless the State Treasurer specifically determines that a credit facility is not required upon a finding and determination by the State Treasurer that the absence of a credit facility will not materially or adversely affect the financial position of the State and the marketing of the bonds or notes at a reasonable interest cost to the State;
  - (2) Be additionally supported by a credit facility;
  - (3) Be made subject to redemption or a mandatory tender for purchase prior to maturity;
  - (4) Bear interest at a rate or rates that may vary for such period or periods of time, all as may be provided in the proceedings providing for the issuance of the bonds or notes, including, without limitation, such variations as may be permitted pursuant to a par formula; and
  - (5) Be made the subject of a remarketing agreement whereby an attempt is made to remarket bonds or notes to new purchasers prior to their presentment for payment to the provider of the credit facility or to the State

If the aggregate principal amount repayable by the State under a credit facility is in excess of the aggregate principal amount of bonds or notes secured by the credit facility, whether as a result of the inclusion in the credit facility of a provision for the payment of interest for a limited period of time or the payment of a redemption premium or for any other reason, then the amount of authorized but unissued bonds or notes during the term of such credit facility shall not be less than the amount of such excess, unless the payment of such excess is otherwise provided for by agreement of the State executed by the State Treasurer.

- Sec. 10. Interpretation of Act. (a) Additional Method. The foregoing sections of this act shall be deemed to provide an additional and alternative method for the doing of the things authorized thereby and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional to powers conferred by other laws, and shall not be regarded as in derogation of any powers now existing.
- (b) Statutory References. References in this act to specific sections or Chapters of the General Statutes or to specific acts are intended to be references to these sections, Chapters, or acts as they may be amended from time to time by the General Assembly.
- (c) Liberal Construction. This act, being necessary for the health and welfare of the people of the State, shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes thereof.
- (d) Inconsistent Provisions. Insofar as the provisions of this act are inconsistent with the provisions of any general laws, or parts thereof, the provisions of this act shall be controlling.

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- (e) Severability. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.
  - Sec. 11. Effective date. This act is effective upon ratification.