## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

## **SESSION 1991**

S SENATE BILL 37

Short Title: Infrastructure Bond Bill. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Carpenter, Cochrane, Conder, Odom; Carter, Forrester, Hartsell, and Marvin.

Referred to: Finance.

February 7, 1991 1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 2 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE 3 MILLION DOLLARS IN GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE STATE, SUBJECT TO A VOTE OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE STATE, TO 4 PROVIDE FUNDS, WITH ANY OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS, FOR GENERAL 5 STATE PURPOSES. 6 7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "State 8 9 General Purposes Bond Act". Sec. 2. Definitions. 10 As used in this act, unless the context otherwise 11 requires: 12 "Bonds'means bonds issued under this act. (1) " Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund"means the Clean 13 (2) Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund as defined in the Clean Water 14 Revolving Loan and Grant Fund Act. 15 " Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund Act"means Chapter 16 (3) 796 of the 1987 Session Laws, as the same may be amended from time 17 to time, which, as codified appears as Chapter 159G of the General 18 Statutes, as amended. 19 20 "Cost"means, without intending thereby to limit or restrict any proper (4) 21 definition of such word in financing the cost of facilities or purposes 22 authorized by this act:

1		a. The cost of constructing, reconstructing, enlarging, acquiring
2		and improving facilities, and acquiring equipment and land
3		therefor,
4		b. The cost of engineering, architectural and other consulting
5		services as may be required,
6		c. Administrative expenses and charges,
7		d. The cost of bond insurance, investment contracts, credit
8		enhancement and liquidity facilities, interest-rate swap
9		agreements, financial and legal consultants and related costs of
10		bond and note issuance, to the extent and as determined by the
11		State Treasurer, and
12		e. Any other costs and expenses necessary or incidental to the
13		purposes of this act.
14	(5)	" Credit facility" means an agreement entered into by the State
15		Treasurer on behalf of the State with a bank, savings and loan
16		association or other banking institution, an insurance company,
17		reinsurance company, surety company or other insurance institution, a
18		corporation, investment banking firm or other investment institution,
19		or any financial institution or other similar provider of a credit facility,
20		which provider may be located within or without the United States of
21		America, such agreement providing for prompt payment of all or any
		part of the principal or purchase price (whether at maturity,
22 23		presentment or tender for purchase, redemption or acceleration),
24		redemption premium, if any, and interest on any bonds or notes
24 25		payable on demand or tender by the owner, in consideration of the
26		State agreeing to repay the provider of the credit facility in accordance
27		with the terms and provisions of such agreement.
28	(6)	"Notes"means notes issued under this act.
29	(7)	"Par formula"means any provision or formula adopted by the State to
30	. ,	provide for the adjustment, from time to time, of the interest rate or
31		rates borne by any bonds or notes, including:
32		a. A provision providing for such adjustment so that the purchase
33		price of such bonds or notes in the open market would be as
34		close to par as possible,
35		b. A provision providing for such adjustment based upon a
36		percentage or percentages of a prime rate or base rate, which
37		percentage or percentages may vary or be applied for different
38		periods of time, or
39		c. Such other provision as the State Treasurer may determine to be
40		consistent with this act and will not materially and adversely
41		affect the financial position of the State and the marketing of
42		bonds or notes at a reasonable interest cost to the State.
43	(8)	"Water supply systems" means water supply systems as defined in the
44	(-)	Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act.
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- (9) "Wastewater collection systems" means wastewater collection systems as defined in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act.
  - (10) "Wastewater treatment works" means wastewater treatment works as defined in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act.
- Sec. 3. Clean water bonds. (a) Findings and determinations. It is the intent and purpose of the General Assembly by this act to provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds of the State in order to provide additional low-interest funding for the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund and to assist in the financing of new water supply systems, wastewater collection systems and wastewater treatment works and necessary capital improvements to existing systems.
- (b) 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 clean water bonds in the election called and held as hereinafter provided, the State Treasurer is hereby 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 Clean Water Bonds", with such additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as herein provided, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding one hundred fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000) for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for the purposes authorized in this act.
- (c) Use of bond and note proceeds. The proceeds of clean water bonds and notes shall be used for the purpose of making deposits to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund to provide funds to be used to make revolving loans and grants to local government units to construct wastewater collection systems, wastewater treatment works and water supply systems and to assist such units in obtaining financing for projects to provide wastewater collection systems, wastewater treatment works and water supply systems, including providing reserve funds to secure obligations issued by local government units to finance such projects, to provide interest subsidies on obligations issued by local government units to finance such projects and to provide funds for securing credit enhancement for obligations issued to finance such projects.

Proceeds of clean water bonds and notes shall be paid to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund and the accounts thereof as hereinafter provided and shall be disbursed in the manner set forth in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act.

(d) Allocation of proceeds of bonds and notes. The proceeds of clean water bonds and notes, including premium, 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 account to be designated "Clean Water Bonds Account" to be established in the "State General Purpose Bond Fund" hereafter mentioned. Moneys in the Clean Water Bonds Account shall be used for the purposes set forth in this section, and the particular deposits to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund to be made from the proceeds shall be determined from time to time in accordance with the procedures established by this section.

Amounts placed by the State Treasurer in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund shall be allocated among the various accounts in said fund in the amounts determined by the Director of the Office of State Budget and Management, provided that sixty-five percent (65%) of the amount deposited shall be deposited to the wastewater accounts and thirty-five percent (35%) of the amount deposited shall be deposited to the water supply accounts. The Director of the Office of State Budget and Management shall endeavor to allocate the amounts to the water supply accounts or wastewater accounts of the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund so as to best effectuate the purposes of this act to provide revolving loans and grants for clean water projects, taking into account the historical and projected requirements for clean water projects in the State.

Any additional moneys which 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 for deposit to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund may be placed in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of such grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of clean water bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for making deposits to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund, including the proceeds of any other State bond issues, whether heretofore made available or which may be made available at the session of the General Assembly at which this act is ratified or any subsequent sessions. The proceeds of clean water 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 making deposits to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Comptroller, 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 Statues, as it may be amended from time to time.

- (e) Amendments to the North Carolina Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act.
  - (1) G.S. 159G-3 is amended by adding the following definitions, in the appropriate alphabetical order, to read:
  - "(4a) 'Financing assistance' means monetary assistance to a local government unit to assist the unit in obtaining financing of the cost of a wastewater collection system, wastewater treatment works, or a water supply system, including assistance to provide a deposit to a debt service reserve fund or to provide credit enhancement such as bond insurance, a letter of credit, or interest rate subsidies.
  - (14a) 'Revolving financing assistance loan' means a sum of money loaned by the State to a local government unit to provide financing assistance, with an obligation on the part of the unit to repay the sum."
  - (2) G.S. 159G-3(5) and (15) read as rewritten:

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- "(5) 'Grant' means a sum of money given by the State to a local government unit to subsidize the construction costs of a project authorized by this Chapter, Chapter or to provide financing assistance to a local government unit, without any obligation on the part of such the unit to repay such the sum.

  (15) 'Revolving loan' includes a revolving construction loan and an
  - (15) 'Revolving loan' includes a revolving construction loan and an emergency loan. loan, a revolving emergency loan, and a revolving financing assistance loan."
  - (3) G.S. 159G-4(c) reads as rewritten:
  - All payments of interest and repayments of principal resulting from revolving <del>loans</del>-loans, other than those made to provide financing assistance, shall be credited to the respective accounts from which the revolving loan funds were disbursed. Payments and repayments resulting from revolving loans to provide financing assistance shall be credited to the account from which a transfer to the Wastewater Financing Assistance Account or Water Supply Financing Assistance Account was made. Terms and conditions for repayment of revolving loans shall be established by the Office of State Budget and Management, with the assistance of the Local Government Commission, consistent with the requirements of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and this Chapter. Provided, the The interest rate for all revolving loans authorized by this Chapter shall be fixed at the same percent per annum as the interest rate fixed under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act for Chapter, other than for loans from the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, is seven percent (7%) per year. The interest rate for all revolving loans from the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund established by G.S. 159G-5(e), not to 159G-5(c) shall not exceed the lesser of four percent (4%) or one half (1/2) the prevailing national market rate for tax exempt general obligation debt of similar maturities derived from a published indicator. Provided further, the interest rate may be fixed at indicator, unless a lower rate per annum if year is authorized by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Regulations. It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide uniform interest payments for all loans made to units of local government irrespective of the account from which loans are made for either wastewater or water supply projects."
    - (4) G.S. 159G-6 reads as rewritten:

## "§ 159G-6. Distribution of funds.

- (a) Revolving loans and grants.
  - (1) All funds appropriated or accruing to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund, other than funds set aside for administrative expenses, shall be used for revolving loans and grants to local government units for construction costs or assistance in financing the construction costs of wastewater treatment works, wastewater collection systems and water supply systems and other assistance as provided in this Chapter.
  - (2) The maximum principal amount of a revolving loan or a grant may be to be used for construction costs of wastewater treatment works, wastewater collection systems, and water supply systems is one hundred percent (100%) of the nonfederal share of the construction

- costs of any eligible project. The maximum principal amount of 1 2 revolving loans made to any one local government unit during any 3 fiscal year shall be three-five million dollars (\$3,000,000). (\$5,000,000). The maximum principal amount of grants made to any one local 4 5 government unit during any fiscal year shall be five hundred thousand 6 dollars (\$500,000), seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000).
  - The State Treasurer shall be responsible for investing and distributing (3) all funds appropriated or accruing to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund for revolving loans and grants under this Chapter. In fulfilling his responsibilities under this section, the State Treasurer shall make a written request to the Office of State Budget and Management to arrange for the appropriated funds to be (i) transferred from the appropriate accounts to a local government unit to provide funds for one or more revolving loans or grants or (ii) invested as authorized by this Chapter with the interest on and the principal of such investments to be transferred to the local government unit to provide funds for one or more revolving loans or grants.
  - Wastewater Accounts. The sums allocated in G.S. 159G-4 and accruing to the various Wastewater Accounts in each fiscal year shall be used to make revolving loans and grants to local government units as provided below. The Office of the State Budget and Management shall disburse no funds from the Wastewater Accounts except upon receipt of written approval of the disbursement from the Environmental Management Commission.
    - General Wastewater Revolving Loan and Grant Account. The funds (1) in the General Wastewater Revolving Loan and Grant Account shall be used exclusively for the purpose of providing for revolving construction loans or grants in connection with approved wastewater treatment work or wastewater collection system projects.
    - High-Unit Cost Wastewater Account. The funds in the High-Unit (2) Cost Wastewater Account shall be available for grants to applicants for high-unit cost wastewater projects. Eligibility of an applicant for such a grant shall be determined by comparing estimated average household user fees for water and sewer service, for debt service and operation and maintenance costs, to one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the median household income in the county in which the project is located. The projects which would require estimated average household water and sewer user fees greater than one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the median household income are defined as high-unit cost wastewater projects and will be eligible for a grant equal to the excess cost, subject to the limitations in subsection (a)(2) of this section.
    - Emergency Wastewater Revolving Loan Account. The funds in the (3) Emergency Wastewater Revolving Loan Account shall be available for revolving emergency loans to applicants in the event the Environmental Management Commission certifies that a serious public

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- health hazard, related to the inadequacy of existing wastewater facilities, is present or imminent in a community.
  - (4) Financing Assistance Wastewater Revolving Loan and Grant Account.— The funds in this account shall be used for revolving financing assistance loans or grants to provide financing assistance in connection with the financing by local government units of approved wastewater treatment works or wastewater collection system projects. To obtain revenue in this account for an approved project, the Office of State Budget and Management shall transfer the amount needed from the General Wastewater Revolving Loan and Grant Account, the High-Unit Cost Wastewater Account, or the Emergency Wastewater Revolving Loan Account. The account from which the transfer is made shall be determined by the type of project.
  - (c) Water Supply Accounts. The sums allocated in G.S. 159G-4 and accruing to the various Water Supply Accounts in each fiscal year shall be used to provide revolving loans and grants to local government units as provided below. The Office of State Budget and Management shall disburse no funds from the Water Supply Accounts except upon receipt of written approval of the disbursement from the Division of Environmental Health.
    - (1) General Water Supply Revolving Loan and Grant Account. The funds in the General Water Supply Revolving Loan and Grant Account shall be used exclusively for the purpose of providing for revolving construction loans and grants in connection with water supply systems generally and not upon a county allotment basis.
    - (2) High-Unit Cost Water Supply Account. The funds in the High-Unit Cost Water Supply Account shall be available for grants to applicants for high-unit cost water supply systems, on the same basis as provided in G.S. 159G-6(b)(2) for high-unit cost wastewater projects.
    - (3) Emergency Water Supply Revolving Loan Account. The funds in the Emergency Water Supply Revolving Loan Account shall be available for revolving emergency loans to applicants in the event the Division of Environmental Health certifies that a serious public health hazard, related to the water supply system, is present or imminent in a community.
    - (4) Financing Assistance Water Supply Revolving Loan and Grant Account.— The funds in this account shall be used for revolving financing assistance loans or grants to provide financing assistance in connection with the financing by local government units of approved water supply system projects. To obtain revenue in this account for an approved project, the Office of State Budget and Management shall transfer the amount needed from the General Water Supply Revolving Loan and Grant Account, the High-Unit Cost Water Supply Account, or the Emergency Water Supply Revolving Loan Account. The

account from which the transfer is made shall be determined by the type of project.

(d) Administrative Account. – The Office of State Budget and Management, from time to time, may allocate funds from the Administrative Account to meet the expenses of the Office of State Budget and Management, Local Government Commission, Division of Environmental Health and Environmental Management Commission incurred in the administration of this Chapter in excess of normal operating expenses.

Each agency entitled to receive administrative expense funds from the Administrative Account shall prepare an itemized estimate of administrative funds required for the succeeding fiscal year, and the Division of Environmental Health, the Local Government Commission and the Environmental Management Commission shall deliver their estimates to the Office of State Budget and Management at least 45 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for which the funds are required. The Office of State Budget and Management shall determine the administrative expense funds available and, along with its recommendations, shall deliver the estimates of the Division of Environmental Health, the Local Government Commission and of the Environmental Management Commission and its own estimate, if any, to the Advisory Budget Commission at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year for which the funds are required. Any administrative expense funds shall be disbursed by the Office of State Budget and Management to the appropriate agency. If the administrative expense funds disbursed to any agency shall prove insufficient, it may apply at any time during the fiscal year for additional funds in the manner above provided.

- (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter, funds in the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund shall not be available as grants except to the extent permitted by Title VI of the Federal Water Quality Act of 1987 and the regulations thereunder."
  - (5) G.S. 159G-8(a) reads as rewritten:
- "(a) Application. All applications for revolving loans and grants for water supply systems or for financing assistance in connection with the financing of water supply systems shall be filed with the Division of Environmental Health and all—Health. All applications for revolving loans and grants for wastewater treatment works or wastewater collection systems and all applications for financing assistance in connection with the financing of wastewater treatment works or wastewater collection systems shall be filed with the Environmental Management Commission. Every applicant shall also file with the Office of State Budget and Management may require by rules adopted pursuant to this Chapter. Any application may be filed in as many categories as it is eligible for consideration under this Chapter. Applications for revolving construction loans or grants for wastewater treatment works and wastewater collection systems, except applications for emergency wastewater loans, shall first be submitted for a loan or grant from the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund established by G.S. 159G-5(c). If the application is denied, the application shall

then be considered for a revolving loan or a grant from the General Wastewater Revolving Loan and Grant account established under G.S. 159-6(b)(1). 159G-6(b)(1).

The Office of State Budget and Management, the Division of Environmental Health and the Environmental Management Commission may develop jointly and adopt a standard form of application under this Chapter. Any application for construction grants under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act may be considered as an application for revolving construction loans or grants under G.S. 159G-5(c) and G.S. 159G-6(b)(1). The information required to be set forth in the application shall be sufficient to permit the respective agencies to determine the eligibility of the applicant and to establish the priority of the application, as set forth in this Chapter.

Any applicant shall furnish information in addition or supplemental to the information contained in its application upon request by the receiving agency."

- (6) G.S. 159G-8 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:
- "(d) Financing Assistance Loans and Grants.— Both the receiving agency and the Local Government Commission must approve an application for financing assistance loans or grants. When the receiving agency approves an application for financing assistance, it shall notify the Local Government Commission of its approval."
  - (7) G.S. 159G-9 reads as rewritten:

## "§ 159G-9. Eligibility.

No application shall be eligible for a revolving loan or grant under this Chapter unless it shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the receiving agency that:

- (1) The applicant is a local government unit.
- (2) The applicant has the financial capacity to pay the principal of and the interest on its proposed obligations and loans. loans, if the application is for a revolving loan.
- (3) The applicant has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and ordinances, federal, State and local.
- (4) The applicant has agreed by official resolution to adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance and administration of the project, and project, and if the application is for a revolving loan, repayment of all principal of and interest on loans."
- (8) G.S. 159G-18(a) reads as rewritten:
- "(a) Local government units may execute debt instruments payable to the State in order to obtain revolving loans provided for in this Chapter. Local government units shall pledge one or more of the following as security for such obligations the a debt instrument:
  - (1) The user fee revenues derived from operation of the benefited facilities or systems only, or their faith and credit, or both. systems.
  - (2) The faith and credit of the local government unit.
  - (3) Any available source of revenue of the local government unit.

 The faith and credit of such local government units shall not be pledged or be deemed to have been pledged unless the requirements of Article 4, Chapter 159 of the General Statutes have been met. A local government unit that pledges a nontax source of revenue may, to the extent the unit has control over generating the pledged revenue, agree to act to generate the revenue.

The Office of State Budget and Management and the State Treasurer, with the assistance of the Local Government Commission, shall develop and adopt appropriate debt instruments for use under this Chapter. The Local Government Commission shall develop and adopt appropriate procedures for the delivery of debt instruments to the State without any public bidding therefor."

- Sec. 4. State parks bonds. (a) Findings and determination. It is the intent and purpose of the General Assembly by this act to provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds of the State in order to facilitate the payment of the capital costs required in providing and improving existing State parks and recreation areas.
- (b) 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 State parks bonds in the election called and held as hereinafter provided, the State Treasurer is hereby 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 State Parks Bonds", with such additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as herein provided, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding forty-five million dollars (\$45,000,000) for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for the purposes authorized in this act.
- (c) Uses of bond and note proceeds. The proceeds of State parks bonds and notes shall be used for the purposes of financing the cost of capital facilities in State parks and recreation areas including, without limitation, visitors' centers, parking lots and access roads, dams, picnic areas, ranger residences, tent and trailer campsites, boat and canoe launching areas, rental cabins, boathouses, swimming facilities, trails, exhibits, storage buildings, water and wastewater systems, electrical systems and underground fuel tanks.
- (d) Allocation of proceeds. The proceeds of State parks 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 account to be designated "State Parks Bonds Account" to be established in the "State General Purpose Bond Fund" hereinafter mentioned. Moneys in the State Parks Bonds Account shall be used for the purposes set forth in this section, and the particular projects within such purposes to be financed in whole or in part from the proceeds shall be determined from time to time by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. In determining the particular projects to be financed, the Secretary of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall develop criteria to establish a priority system under which State parks projects shall be financed with the proceeds of State parks bonds and notes. The criteria shall include such factors as the Secretary of the Department of

Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall deem appropriate in order to forward the purposes of this act to provide safe recreational facilities throughout North Carolina. Such criteria shall include the impact of the proposed project on the public health and safety, the impact of the proposed project on the environment, the cost of the proposed project and the amount of financing from other sources available therefor, the extent the proposed project improves or preserves existing park and recreational facilities and the access to the proposed project of special populations within the general public.

Any additional moneys which 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 State parks facilities authorized by this act may be placed by the State Treasurer in the State Parks Bonds Account or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of such grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of State parks bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for the cost of State parks facilities, including the proceeds of any other State bond issues, whether heretofore made available or which may be made available at the session of the General Assembly at which this act is ratified or any subsequent sessions. The proceeds of State parks 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 State parks facilities shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Comptroller, 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, as it may be amended from time to time.

- Sec. 5. Area Mental Health Facilities Bonds. (a) Findings and determinations. It is the intent and purpose of the General Assembly by this act to provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds of the State in order to facilitate the payment of the capital costs required in providing facilities offering mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse treatment services by Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authorities.
- (b) 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 area mental health facilities bonds in the election called and held as hereinafter provided, the State Treasurer is hereby 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 Area Mental Health Facilities Bonds", with such additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as herein provided, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) for the purposes authorized in this act.
- (c) Uses of bond and note proceeds. The proceeds of area mental health facilities bonds and notes shall be used for the purpose of making grants to counties or to Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authorities to pay the

capital cost of land and buildings to be owned by such counties or Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authorities or for reconstruction or improvements of existing buildings owned by counties or Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authorities, in either case to provide primary centers, satellite centers or group homes to be used by Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authorities to provide mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse treatment services pursuant to G.S. 122C-115, as amended.

Grants shall be made only for the purposes authorized by this section. The funds provided by this act for the making of grants to counties or Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authorities, when received from the State Treasurer as herein provided, shall be deposited by the Department of Human Resources in a special fund established with the Department of Human Resources and to be designated "Area Mental Health Facilities Grant Fund".

Grants shall be made by the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources upon recommendation of the North Carolina Medical Care Commission. In determining to recommend to the Secretary that a grant be awarded, the North Carolina Medical Care Commission shall consider:

- (1) The need for the proposed capital improvement;
- (2) The ability of the applicant to pay the cost of the capital improvement from other sources available to the applicant; and
- (3) The ability of the applicant to pay the cost of operating the proposed capital improvement to be paid from the grant.

The Secretary of the Department of Human Resources may approve the recommendation of the North Carolina Medical Care Commission and the grant shall be approved if the Secretary finds and determines, which finding and determination shall be binding and conclusive, that:

- (1) The applicant has demonstrated a need for the proposed capital improvement and that no other practicable source of payment is available;
- (2) It is reasonably expected that sufficient funding will be available to pay the cost of operating the proposed capital improvement; and
- (3) The awarding of the grant to pay the cost of the proposed capital improvement will further the mental health, developmental disability, or substance abuse treatment needs of the State of North Carolina.
- (d) Allocation of proceeds. The proceeds of area mental health facilities 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 account to be designated "Area Mental Health Facilities Bonds Account" to be established in the "State General Purpose Bond Fund" hereinafter mentioned. Moneys in the Area Mental Health Facilities Bonds Account shall be used for the purposes set forth in this section, and the particular grants within such purposes to be made in whole or in part from the

proceeds shall be determined from time to time by the Secretary of Human Resources as provided in this section.

Any additional moneys which 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 Area Mental Health Facilities grants authorized by this act may be placed by the State Treasurer in the Area Mental Health Facilities Bonds Account or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of such grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of Area Mental Health Facilities bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for the making of grants, including the proceeds of any other State bond issues, whether heretofore made available or which may be made available at the session of the General Assembly at which this act is ratified or any subsequent sessions. The proceeds of area mental health facilities 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 area mental health facilities grants shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Comptroller, 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, as it may be amended from time to time.

- Sec. 6. Community College Equipment Bonds. (a) Findings and determinations. It is the intent and purpose of the General Assembly by this act to provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds of the State in order to facilitate the acquisition of instructional equipment by community colleges by creating and providing for the funding of a Community College Equipment Revolving Loan Fund.
- (b) 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 community college equipment bonds in the election called and held as hereinafter provided, the State Treasurer is hereby 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 Community College Equipment Bonds", with such additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as herein provided, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) for the purposes authorized in this act.
- (c) Uses of bond and note proceeds. The proceeds of community college equipment bonds and notes shall be used for the purpose of making revolving loans to community or technical colleges, as defined in Chapter 115D of the General Statutes, as it may be amended from time to time, the proceeds of such loans to be used by community colleges for the acquisition of instructional equipment including, without limitation, computer systems and supporting software programs, learning laboratories,

audiovisual equipment, mini- and micro-computers, computer controlled machine tools and computer assisted drafting machines.

Loans shall be made by the State Board of Community Colleges to individual community colleges. Loans shall be payable by individual community colleges from the proceeds of appropriations made by the General Assembly and available for such purpose. The funds provided by this act for the making of loans to community colleges, when received from the State Treasurer as herein provided, shall be deposited by the State Board of Community Colleges in a special fund established with the State Board of Community Colleges and to be designated "Community College Equipment Revolving Loan Fund". Payments of principal and interest by individual community colleges on loans shall also be deposited to the Community College Equipment Revolving Loan Fund. Moneys in the Community College Equipment Revolving Loan Fund, whether the proceeds of bonds and notes or the proceeds of payments of principal and interest on loans, shall be used by the State Board of Community Colleges to make loans to community colleges as herein provided.

In the making of loans, the State Board of Community Colleges shall consider:

- (1) The need for the equipment proposed to be acquired.
- (2) The amount of the loan requested.
- (3) The availability of local funds.
- (4) The estimated needs of the various community colleges throughout the State.
- (5) Whether or not the applicant has previously received a loan.

The State Board of Community Colleges may approve the making of a loan if it finds and determines, which finding and determination shall be binding and conclusive, that

- (1) The community college has demonstrated to the State Board of Community Colleges by appropriate documentation the need for the instructional equipment; and
- (2) The community college has demonstrated to the State Board of Community Colleges by appropriate documentation that the instructional equipment to be provided by the loan funds is needed to offer a curriculum program approved by the State Board of Community Colleges and that a quality program would not be offered if equipment loan funds were not made available.

In approving the making of loans, the State Board of Community Colleges shall give priority to loans to community colleges that do not have additional local funds for such purpose.

The form of the loans and the details thereof including, without limitation, the maturity, interest rate and amortization schedule, shall be determined, from time to time, by the State Board of Community Colleges.

(d) Allocation of proceeds. The proceeds of community college equipment 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 account to be designated "Community College Equipment Bonds Account" to be established in the "State General Purpose Bond Fund" hereinafter mentioned. Moneys in the Community College Equipment Bonds Account shall be used for the purposes set forth in this section, and the particular loans within such purposes to be made in whole or in part from the proceeds shall be determined from time to time by the State Board of Community Colleges.

Any additional moneys which 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 community college equipment loans authorized by this act may be placed by the State Treasurer in the Community College Equipment Bonds Account or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of such grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of community college equipment bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for the making of community college equipment loans, including the proceeds of any other State bond issues, whether heretofore made available or which may be made available at the session of the General Assembly at which this act is ratified or any subsequent sessions. The proceeds of community college equipment 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 community college equipment loans shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Comptroller, 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, as it may be amended from time to time.

- Sec. 7. Solid waste management. (a) Findings and determinations. It is the intent and purpose of the General Assembly by this act to provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds of the State in order to facilitate the implementation of local and regional solid waste programs by providing funding for the Solid Waste Management Loan Fund established by Chapter 159I of the General Statutes.
- (b) 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 solid waste management bonds in the election called and held as hereinafter provided, the State Treasurer is hereby 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 Solid Waste Management Bonds", with such additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as herein provided, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) for the purposes authorized in this act.
- (c) Uses of bond and note proceeds. The proceeds of solid waste management bonds and notes shall be used for the purposes of making deposits to the Solid Waste

Management Loan Fund established by Chapter 159I of the General Statutes, as it may be amended from time to time, as a loan fund for financing the capital expenses of local and regional governmental solid waste management programs.

(d) Allocation of proceeds. The proceeds of solid waste management 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 account to be designated "Solid Waste Management Bonds Account" to be established in the "State General Purpose Bond Fund" hereinafter mentioned. Moneys in the Solid Waste Management Bonds Account shall be used for the purposes set forth in this section, and the particular deposits to the Solid Waste Management Loan fund to be made from the proceeds shall be determined from time to time by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources.

Any additional moneys which 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 for deposit to the Solid Waste Management Loan Fund may be placed by the State Treasurer in the Solid Waste Management Bonds Account or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of such grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of solid waste management bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for making deposits to the Solid Waste Management Loan Fund, including the proceeds of any other State bond issues, whether heretofore made available or which may be made available at the session of the General Assembly at which this act is ratified or any subsequent sessions. The proceeds of solid waste management 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 making deposits to the Solid Waste Management Loan Fund shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Comptroller, 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, as it may be amended from time to time.

- Sec. 8. State zoo bonds. (a) Findings and determinations. It is the intent and purpose of the General Assembly by this act to provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds of the State in order to facilitate the payment of the capital costs required in connection with providing additional State zoo facilities.
- (b) 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 State zoo bonds in the election called and held as hereinafter provided, the State Treasurer is hereby 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 State Zoo Bonds", with such additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as

herein provided, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the purposes authorized in this act.

- (c) Uses of bond and note proceeds. The proceeds of State zoo bonds and notes shall be used for the purposes of financing the cost of capital facilities for the North American Phase exhibits at the State zoo.
- (d) Allocation of proceeds. The proceeds of State zoo 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 account to be designated "State Zoo Bonds Account" to be established in the "State General Purpose Bond Fund" hereinafter mentioned. Moneys in the State Zoo Bonds Account shall be used for the purposes set forth in this section, and the particular projects within such purposes to be financed in whole or in part from the proceeds shall be determined from time to time by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources.

Any additional moneys which 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 State zoo facilities authorized by this act may be placed by the State Treasurer in the State Zoo Bonds Account or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of such grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of State zoo bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for the cost of State zoo facilities, including the proceeds of any other State bond issues, whether heretofore made available or which may be made available at the session of the General Assembly at which this act is ratified or any subsequent sessions. The proceeds of State zoo 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 State zoo facilities shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Comptroller, 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, as it may be amended from time to time.

Sec. 9. Uses of bond and note proceeds. The proceeds of 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 the appropriate special account in a special fund to be designated the "State General Purposes Bond Fund" and shall be disbursed as herein provided.

Sec. 10. Election. The questions of the issuance of the following bonds authorized by this act shall each be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at an election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 1991:

\$150,000,000 State of North Carolina Clean Water Bonds, \$45,000,000 State of North Carolina State Park Bonds,

1	\$25,000,000	State of North Carolina Area Mental Health Facilities
2		Bonds,
3	\$25,000,000	State of North Carolina Community College
4		Equipment Bonds,
5	\$25,000,000	State of North Carolina Solid Waste Management
6		Bonds, and
7	\$ 5,000,000	State of North Carolina State Zoo Bonds.

Any other primary, election or referendum validly called or scheduled by law at the time the election on the bond questions provided for in this section is held may be held as called or scheduled. Notice of the election on the bond questions shall be given by publication twice in a newspaper or newspapers having general circulation in each county in the State, and 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 which are in addition to those which would have otherwise been incurred, the same to be paid out of the Contingency and Emergency Fund.

Voting machines may be used in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the State Board of Elections. The State Board of Elections may also cause to be printed and distributed, to the extent necessary, ballots for use in the election. The bond questions to be used in the voting machines and any ballots shall be in substantially the following forms:

- "[] FOR the issuance of one hundred fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000) State of North Carolina Clean Water 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, with any other available funds, for making deposits to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund established by Chapter 159G, as amended, of the General Statutes, in order to provide funds to make revolving loans and grants to assist local government units in paying the cost of construction or financing the cost of construction of clean water projects.
- [] AGAINST the issuance of one hundred fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000) State of North Carolina Clean Water 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, with any other available funds, for making deposits to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund established by Chapter 159G, as amended, of the General Statutes, in order to provide funds to make revolving loans and grants to assist local government units in paying the cost of construction or financing the cost of construction of clean water projects."

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"[] FOR the issuance of forty-five million dollars (\$45,000,000) State of North Carolina State Park 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, with any other available funds, for paying the cost of capital facilities in State Parks and recreation areas.

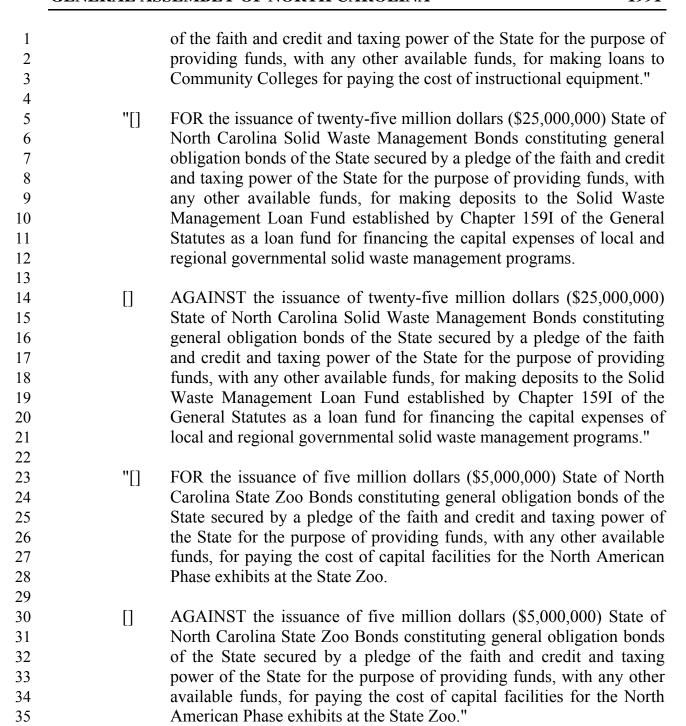
[] AGAINST the issuance of forty-five million dollars (\$45,000,000) State of North Carolina State Park Bonds constituting general obligation bonds of the State secured by a pledge of the faith and credit and taxing power of the state for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, for paying the cost of capital facilities in State Parks and recreation areas."

"[] FOR the issuance of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) State of North Carolina Area Mental Health Facilities 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, with any other available funds, for making grants to counties or Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authorities for capital improvements to provide mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse treatment services.

[] AGAINST the issuance of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) State of North Carolina Area Mental Health Facilities 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, with any other available funds, for making grants to counties or Area Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Authorities for capital improvements to provide mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse treatment services."

"[] FOR the issuance of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) State of North Carolina Community College Equipment 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, with any other available funds, for making loans to Community Colleges for paying the cost of instructional equipment.

 [] AGAINST the issuance of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) State of North Carolina Community College Equipment Bonds constituting general obligation bonds of the State secured by a pledge



If a majority of those voting on a bond question in the election shall vote in favor of the issuance of the bonds described in the question, such bonds may be issued as herein provided. If a majority of those voting on a bond question in the election shall vote against the issuance of the bonds described in the question, such bonds shall not be issued.

The results of the election shall be canvassed and declared as provided by law for the holding of elections for State officers and the results thereof 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. 11. 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.

(b) 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 said Chapter may be amended from time to time, 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 notes, as the State Treasurer may determine. All expenses incurred in the 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.

(d) Notes; repayment.

- (1) 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:
  - a. For anticipating the sale of bonds to the issuance of which the 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;
  - c. For the renewal of any loan evidenced by notes herein authorized:
  - d. For the purposes authorized in this act; and
  - e. For refunding bonds or notes as herein authorized.
- (2) Funds derived from the sale of bonds or notes may be used in the 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, as it may be amended from time to time, 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 and their transfer (including any profit made on the sale thereof) 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. The interest on bonds and notes shall not be subject to taxation as to income, nor shall the bonds and notes be subject to taxation when constituting a part of the surplus of any bank, trust company, or other corporation.
- (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. 12. Variable interest rates. In fixing the details of bonds and notes, the State Treasurer may provide that any of the bonds or notes may:

 (1) 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 and 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. 13. 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) 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.

(c) 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.

(d) 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. 14. This act is effective upon ratification; except that the provisions of Section 3(e) providing for amendments to the North Carolina Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act shall become effective only upon the receipt by the Secretary of State from the State Board of Elections of certification of election results showing that a majority of those voting on the question of the issuance of one hundred fifty million dollars (\$150,000,000) State of North Carolina Clean Water Bonds voted in favor of the issuance of said bonds.