

WHEREAS, The Alice Ferguson Foundation Inc., which operates the Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center has been forced to reduce the number of groups whom it may serve, has been prevented from implementing needed development and has been unable to make the Center available to many students who desire more in-depth study, due to a limited budget and budget cutbacks; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as The Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc. Loan of 1984 in the aggregate principal amount of \$100,000. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance and sale of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold and delivered in accordance with the provisions of §§ 19 to 23 of Article 31 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1983 Replacement Volume, as amended from time to time).

(2) The bonds issued to evidence this loan or installments thereof may be sold as a single issue, or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under § 2B of Article 31 of the Code.

(3) The actual cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer and shall be first applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing and delivering the bonds unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided and thereafter shall be credited on the books of the State Comptroller and expended, upon approval by the Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to The Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc., for the purpose of the expansion, furnishing, equipping, reconstruction and capital improvement of the Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center in Accokeek, Maryland.

(4) There is hereby levied and imposed an annual State tax on all assessable property in the State in rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as and when due and until paid in full, such principal to be discharged within fifteen years of the date of issue of the bonds.

(5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc. shall provide at least an equal and matching fund of \$100,000. No part of an applicant's matching fund may be provided, either directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated.