

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly declares that it is the public policy of this State to manage State general obligation bond debt in a manner that will maintain Maryland's AAA bond rating. The General Assembly further declares that legislative oversight, control, and review of all forms of State obligations is essential to maintenance of the State's existing bond rating and protection of the fiscal integrity of the State.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That before work may commence pursuant to any supplement to any appropriation contained herein, satisfactory assurance must be given to the Board of Public Works that the project can be completed with the aggregate of the funds herein and heretofore appropriated for the stated purpose.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That with the approval of the Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning, any appropriation for construction provided in this Act may be used to purchase capital equipment if the amount of the appropriation exceeds the amount required for construction expenses, including allowances for contingencies.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as otherwise provided in this Act, before a State agency or institution named in this Act as responsible for an individual item may begin work with funds appropriated by this Act, the agency or institution shall provide satisfactory evidence to the Board of Public Works that the work described in the individual item can be completed with the funds specified for that item.

SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That with the approval of the Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning, any appropriation under the provisions of this Act that is in excess of the amount needed for a project may be credited to the Construction Contingency Fund created by Section 1(3), Item 23.05.02(E) of the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 1992 and codified under Section 3-609 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That if federal funds are available to help accomplish any project identified in this Act, the State agency or institution responsible for the project shall make efforts through proper administrative procedures to obtain these federal funds. Before spending any funds appropriated by this Act, the agency or institution shall certify its efforts to the Board of Public Works and state the reason for any failure to obtain federal funds. If federal funds are obtained, they shall be used to defray the costs of the project described in this Act, and not to expand its scope.

SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That for any appropriation for planning of a State-owned project provided in this Act, if a program required by Section 3-602(d) of the State Finance and Procurement Article has not been submitted, then the State agency or institution responsible for the project shall submit a program to the Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning for approval before funds may be expended from the appropriation. For any appropriation for construction of a State-owned project provided in this Act, if preliminary plans and outline specifications required by Section 3-602(f)(2)(i) of the State Finance and Procurement Article have not been prepared, then the State agency or institution responsible for the project shall submit preliminary