CHAPTER 451

(House Bill 204)

AN ACT concerning

Creation of a State Debt – Montgomery County – Site for Electronic Media, Art, and Technology

FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed ~~$750,000~~ ~~$300,000~~ *$200,000*, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of Pyramid Atlantic, Inc. for certain acquisition, development, or improvement purposes; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; and providing generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

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 Montgomery County – Site for Electronic Media, Art, and Technology Loan of 2001 in a total principal amount equal to the lesser of (i) ~~$750,000~~ ~~$300,000~~ *$200,000* or (ii) the amount of the matching fund provided in accordance with Section 1(5) below. This loan shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with §§ 8–117 through 8–124 of the State Finance and Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

(2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under § 8–122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

(3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to the Board of Directors of Pyramid Atlantic, Inc. (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the acquisition, architectural and technical design, and renovation of a building that will house the Site for Electronic Media, Art, and Technology, as part of the downtown revitalization area of Silver Spring.

(4) An annual State tax is imposed 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. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years after the date of issuance 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 grantee shall provide and expend a