State Government Article, on the use of alternative financing mechanisms to finance public school construction in Maryland in the prior fiscal year.

SECTION 12. 14. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 3 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

SECTION 13. 15. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 2 and 4 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 2005. Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, Section 2 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 14. 16. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Sections 12 and 13 14 and 15 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2004. Approved May 11, 2004.

## **CHAPTER 307**

(House Bill 1230)

AN ACT concerning

## **Public School Facilities Act of 2004**

FOR the purpose of authorizing counties to finance the construction or renovation of public school facilities, under certain circumstances, using alternative financing methods, engaging in competitive negotiation, accepting unsolicited proposals, and using quality based selection; authorizing a private entity to hold title to property used for a certain public school or school system under certain circumstances; clarifying that the requirements of certain provisions of the State Finance and Procurement Article apply to certain projects; expressing the intent of the General Assembly that the State Department of Education and the Public School Construction Program encourage local education agencies to use recently used school designs under certain circumstances; requiring the Interagency Committee on School Construction to survey the condition of certain school buildings; requiring the Department of General Services to conduct certain inspections; requiring the Interagency Committee to make a certain annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly; requiring the Department of General Services to submit a certain annual report to the State Department of Education and local education agencies; authorizing certain counties to issue certain bonds under certain circumstances; providing for the issuance and administration of the bonds; providing for the repayment of the bonds; authorizing certain counties to impose a sales tax on certain retail sales. subject to certain limits; authorizing certain counties to impose a certain transfer tax on certain instruments, subject to certain limits; repealing a certain exemption from the Administrative Procedure Act; altering the amount of grants provided to counties under the Aging Schools Program; providing an exception to a certain mandatory level of State funds to be granted to Prince