GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 14

Select Committee on Bonds Committee Substitute Adopted 4/15/93 Finance Committee Substitute Adopted 6/17/93

Short Title: Education/Clean Water/Parks Bonds.	(Public)
Sponsors:	_
Referred to: Capital Expenditures and Improvements.	-
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January 28, 1993

1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2	AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-EIGHT
3	MILLION DOLLARS IN GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE STATE,
4	SUBJECT TO A VOTE OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE STATE, TO
5	PROVIDE FUNDS FOR (1) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE
6	UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, (2) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR
7	COMMUNITY COLLEGES, (3) GRANTS, LOANS, AND REVOLVING LOANS
8	TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS FOR WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS,
9	WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEMS, WASTEWATER TREATMENT
10	WORKS, AND WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS, AND (4) CAPITAL
11	IMPROVEMENTS AND LAND ACQUISITION FOR STATE PARKS AND
12	RECREATION AREAS.
13	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Education, Clean Water, and Parks Bond Act of 1993".

- Sec. 2. Purpose. It is the intent of the General Assembly by this act to provide for the issuance of seven hundred fifty-eight million dollars (\$758,000,000) in general obligation bonds of the State, and to provide that the proceeds realized from the sale of the bonds shall be allocated as follows:
 - Two hundred ninety-eight million dollars (\$298,000,000) to provide capital improvements for each of the constituent institutions and

certain of the affiliated institutions of The University of North 1 2 Carolina 3 **(2)** Two hundred ten million dollars (\$210,000,000) to provide grants to individual community colleges to finance the costs of community 4 college capital improvements for each community college in this State. 5 6 (3) Fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) to provide State matching funds 7 required to receive federal wastewater or water supply assistance funds 8 and to provide additional funding for the Clean Water Revolving Loan 9 and Grant Fund established in Chapter 159G of the General Statutes or 10 to provide funding by grants and loans to local government units, and one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) to provide loans to local 11 12 government units to assist in the financing of the cost of construction. 13 improvements, enlargements, extensions, and reconstruction of water 14 supply systems, wastewater collection systems, wastewater treatment 15 works, and water conservation projects. The funds to be derived from the sale of the bonds authorized by 16 17 this act for water and wastewater needs are sufficient to meet no more 18 than a fraction of the needs which now exist and will arise in the immediate future. For this reason, although public necessity and the 19 20 criteria established by Chapter 159G of the General Statutes shall be 21 the primary consideration in granting and loaning funds, great emphasis shall also be placed on the creation of efficient systems of 22 regional wastewater disposal and regional water supply, and on the 23 24 willingness and ability of local government units to meet their 25 responsibilities through sound fiscal policies and plans and efficient operation and management. 26 27 (4) One hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) to provide capital improvements in the form of repairs, renovations, new construction, 28 29 and land acquisition for State parks and recreation areas. 30 Sec. 3. Definitions. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise 31 requires: 32 "Bonds" means bonds issued under this act. (1) 33 "Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act" means Chapter 796 of (2) 34 the 1987 Session Laws, as the same may be amended from time to 35 time, codified as Chapter 159G of the General Statutes. " Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund" means the Clean 36 (3)

(4) "Cost" means, without intending thereby to limit or restrict any proper definition of this term in financing the cost of facilities or purposes authorized by this act:

Revolving Loan and Grant Act.

a. The cost of constructing, reconstructing, enlarging, acquiring, and improving facilities, and acquiring equipment and land therefor,

Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund as defined in the Clean Water

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The cost of engineering, architectural, and other consulting b. 1 2 services as may be required, 3 Administrative expenses and charges, c. The cost of bond insurance, investment contracts, credit 4 d. enhancement and liquidity facilities, interest-rate swap 5 6 agreements or other derivative products, financial and legal 7 consultants, and related costs of bond and note issuance, to the 8 extent and as determined by the State Treasurer, and 9 Any other costs and expenses necessary or incidental to the e. 10 purposes of this act. Allocations in this act of proceeds of bonds to the costs of a project or 11 12 undertaking in each case may include allocations to pay the costs set forth in items c., d., and e. in connection with the issuance of bonds for 13 14 the project or undertaking. 15 (5) " Credit facility" means an agreement entered into by the State 16 Treasurer on behalf of the State with a bank, savings and loan 17 association, or other banking institution, an insurance company, 18 reinsurance company, surety company, or other insurance institution, a corporation, investment banking firm, or other investment institution, 19 20 or any financial institution or other similar provider of a credit facility. 21 which provider may be located within or without the United States of America, such agreement providing for prompt payment of all or any 22 part of the principal or purchase price (whether at maturity, 23 24 presentment or tender for purchase, redemption or acceleration), redemption premium, if any, and interest on any bonds or notes 25 payable on demand or tender by the owner, in consideration of the 26 27 State agreeing to repay the provider of the credit facility in accordance with the terms and provisions of such agreement. 28 29 "Local government units" means local government units as defined in (6) the North Carolina Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act of 30 1987, Chapter 159G of the General Statutes. 31 32 " Notes" means notes issued under this act. **(7)** "Par formula" means any provision or formula adopted by the State to 33 (8) provide for the adjustment, from time to time, of the interest rate or 34 35 rates borne by any bonds or notes, including: A provision providing for such adjustment so that the purchase 36 price of such bonds or notes in the open market would be as 37 38 close to par as possible. 39 A provision providing for such adjustment based upon a b. percentage or percentages of a prime rate or base rate, which 40 41 percentage or percentages may vary or be applied for different 42 periods of time, or Such other provision as the State Treasurer may determine to be 43 c.

consistent with this act and will not materially and adversely

affect the financial position of the State and the marketing of bonds or notes at a reasonable interest cost to the State.

- (9) "State" means the State of North Carolina.
- (10) "Wastewater collection systems" means wastewater collection systems as defined in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act.
- (11) "Wastewater treatment works" means wastewater treatment works as defined in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act.
- "Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund" means the fund described by G.S. 159G-4(a) and G.S. 159G-5(c).
- "Water supply systems" means water supply systems as defined in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act.
- Sec. 4. Authorization of bonds and notes. (a) University Improvement Bonds. Subject to a favorable vote of a majority of the qualified voters of the State who vote on the question of issuing University Improvement Bonds in the election held as provided in this act, the State Treasurer is 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 University Improvement Bonds", with any additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as provided in this act, in the aggregate principal amount not exceeding two hundred ninety-eight million dollars (\$298,000,000) for the purposes authorized in this act.
- (b) Community College Bonds. Subject to a favorable vote of a majority of the qualified voters of the State who vote on the question of issuing Community College Bonds in the election held as provided in this act, the State Treasurer is 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 Bonds", with any additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as provided in this act, in the aggregate principal amount not exceeding two hundred ten million dollars (\$210,000,000) for the purposes authorized in this act.
- (c) Clean Water Bonds. 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 provided in this act, 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 any additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as provided in this act, 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.
- (d) State Parks Bonds. 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 provided in this act, 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 any additional designations as may be determined to indicate the issuance of bonds from time to time, or notes of the State as provided in this act, in the aggregate principal amount not exceeding one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) for the purposes authorized in this act.

Sec. 5. Uses of bond and note proceeds. (a) University Improvement Bonds. The proceeds of University Improvement Bonds and notes shall be used for the purpose of paying (i) the cost of improvements to the facilities of the constituent or affiliated institutions of The University of North Carolina, under the supervision of the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, including, without limitation, construction and renovation of classroom buildings, laboratory buildings, research facilities, libraries, physical education facilities, continuing education centers, student cafeteria and activity facilities, including sports facilities, administrative office buildings, and land acquisition and (ii) the cost of improvements to existing facilities of the North Carolina Center for Public Television under the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina. The buildings constructed using the proceeds of the bonds shall comply with the energy design guidelines developed by the Energy Division of the Department of Commerce.

Any additional moneys that 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 university improvements authorized by this act may be placed by the State Treasurer in the University Improvement Bonds Fund or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of the grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of University Improvement Bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for the making of university improvements, 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 University Improvement 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 university improvements shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Controller, 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.

The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall provide quarterly reports to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Committees, and the Fiscal Research Division on the expenditure of moneys from the University Improvement Bonds Fund.

(b) Community College Bonds. The proceeds of Community College Bonds and notes shall be used for the purpose of making grants to community or technical colleges, as defined in Chapter 115D of the General Statutes, the proceeds of the grants to be

allocated and expended for paying the cost of Community College capital improvements, including, without limitation, construction and renovation of classroom buildings, laboratory buildings, research facilities, libraries, physical education facilities, continuing education centers, student cafeteria and activity facilities, including sports facilities, and administrative office buildings, and related equipment, and land acquisition. The buildings constructed using the proceeds of the bonds shall comply with the energy design guidelines developed by the Energy Division of the Department of Commerce. The proceeds of the bonds and notes shall be used to make at least one grant to each community or technical college in this 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 to aid in financing the cost of any Community College grants authorized by this act may be placed by the State Treasurer in the Community College Bonds Fund or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of the grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of Community College Bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for the making of Community College 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 Community College 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 improvements shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Controller, 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.

The State Board of Community Colleges shall provide quarterly reports to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, the chairs of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Committees, and the Fiscal Research Division on the expenditure of moneys from the Community College Bonds Fund.

- (c) Clean Water Bonds. The proceeds of Clean Water Bonds and notes shall be used for the purpose of making loans and grants to local governments as follows:
 - (1) The proceeds of fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) of Clean Water Bonds shall be used and allocated for the same purposes for which funds in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund may be used including, without limitation, to provide funds to be used to make revolving loans and grants to local government units. The revolving loans and grants shall be made for the purpose of paying the cost of water supply systems, wastewater collection systems, and wastewater treatment works. The first priority for use of proceeds shall be to provide the State funds necessary to match the full amount of federal wastewater or water supply assistance funds deposited into the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund that are available to the State from

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43 44 year to year, unless the General Assembly has provided other funds for that purpose, in which event this priority shall cease to exist to the extent of the availability of those other funds. The proceeds may be (i) transferred directly to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund to make revolving loans or grants, (ii) used to make revolving loans or grants directly to the appropriate local government qualifying for a revolving loan or grant from the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund, (iii) used for any combination of (i) and (ii), or (iv) used in such other manner as shall effectuate the purposes of this act. Although public necessity and the criteria established by Chapter 159G of the General Statutes shall be the primary consideration in granting and loaning funds, great emphasis shall be placed on the creation of efficient systems of regional wastewater disposal and regional water supply, and on the willingness and ability of local government units to meet their responsibilities through sound fiscal policies and plans and efficient operation and management. Loans and grants made from bond proceeds transferred from the Clean Water Bonds Fund to the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund shall be made and administered in accordance with the provisions of the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act. Loans made directly to local government units and any loan repayments shall, to the extent applicable, be made, administered, and applied in accordance with the provisions of the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Act. Repayments of any direct loans may be initially placed into any fund or account as may be determined by the State Treasurer for the purpose of determining compliance with the applicable requirements of the federal tax law and shall be expended and disbursed therefrom under the direction and supervision of the Director of the Budget.

(2) The proceeds of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) of Clean Water Bonds shall be used for the purpose of making loans to local government units to pay the cost of water supply systems, water conservation projects, wastewater collection systems, and wastewater treatment works. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of the proceeds of the bonds and notes shall be allocated for loans to local government units for wastewater collection systems and wastewater treatment works. Thirty-one percent (31%) of the proceeds of the bonds and notes shall be allocated for loans to local government units for water supply systems and water conservation projects.

The proceeds may be used to make loans directly to local government units qualifying for a loan from the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund or used in such other manner as shall effectuate the purposes of this act. To qualify for a loan from the Clean Water Bonds Fund for the purpose of paying the cost of water supply systems or water conservation projects, a local government unit

 Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. A water supply facility plan submitted by a local government unit to the Department under G.S. 143-355(l) will be sufficient to meet this requirement. To qualify for a loan from the Clean Water Bonds Fund for the purpose of paying the cost of wastewater collection systems or wastewater treatment works, a local government unit must also have a wastewater facility plan approved by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. A wastewater facility plan must project future wastewater treatment needs, must present a long-range plan to meet those needs, and must include plans for system operations and maintenance of the facilities being built with the bond proceeds. The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources

must also have a water supply facility plan approved by the

The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall administer the making of these loans, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of this act. 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 Treasurer. In making such determinations, the State Treasurer shall consider the purpose of the loans, the ability of local government units to repay the loans, and the security for the loans. The interest rates on such loans shall reflect the self-supporting nature of the loan program and shall be sufficient to cover substantially all payments of debt service on the Clean Water Bonds and the issuance costs and administrative expenses associated with the issuance of such Bonds and the making of such loans, subject to any applicable requirements of the federal tax law.

Repayments of the loans shall be credited to the General Fund and may be used to pay, directly or indirectly, debt service on the bonds and notes issued. Repayments shall be initially placed into such fund or account as may be determined by the State Treasurer for the purpose of determining compliance with applicable requirements of the federal tax law and shall be expended and disbursed therefrom under the direction and supervision of the Director of the Budget.

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 Bonds Fund may be placed in the Clean Water Bonds Fund or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of the grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for making grants and loans authorized by this act, 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 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 shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Controller, 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.

(d) State Parks Bonds. The proceeds of State Parks Bonds and notes shall be used for the purpose of paying the cost of capital facilities in State parks and recreation areas including, without limitation, land acquisition, 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.

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 State Parks Bonds Fund may be placed in the State Parks Bonds Fund or in a separate account or fund and shall be disbursed, to the extent permitted by the terms of the grant or grants, without regard to any limitations imposed by this act.

The proceeds of bonds and notes may be used with any other moneys made available by the General Assembly for making grants and loans authorized by this act, 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 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 shall be disbursed for the purposes provided in this act upon warrants drawn on the State Treasurer by the State Controller, 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.

Sec. 6. Allocation of proceeds. (a) University Improvement Bonds. The proceeds of University Improvement 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 fund to be designated "University Improvement Bonds Fund". Moneys in the University Improvement Bonds Fund shall be used for the purposes set forth in this act. The proceeds of University Improvement Bonds and notes shall be allocated and expended for paying the cost of university capital improvements, to the extent and as provided in this act and subject to change as provided in this act, as follows:

Constituent or Affiliated Institution or Board of Governors Capital Improvement Appalachian State University Projected Allocation

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Academic Sup 8,794,900	port Services E	Building				\$
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East Carolina Uni Addition 28,900,000	1	to		Joyner		Library
Land 5,000,0	100					
Elizabeth City Sta Fine A 6,432,600	ate University rts and	Ma	ISS	Comm	unications	Building
Fayetteville State Residence	University	H	Iall			Renovations
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Pembroke State U	Iniversity					
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Page 10					SENATE BII	LL 14 version 3

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9	Physical	Edi	acation	Build	ding	1)	Health		Promotic	on)
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31	23,357,000			IVIUSI	C				Dunai	ing
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

1	Renovate	Camp		Lab	School
2	1,896,500	•			
3	Renovate		Reid		Gym
4	2,379,400				-
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6	Winston-Salem Sta	te University			
7	Student	Services/Cafeteria/S	Student	Union	Complex
8	6,073,350				
9	Renovations	to		O'Kelly	Library
10	1,119,500				
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12	North Carolina Sch	ool of Science and Ma	thematics		
13	Educational	Technologies	Center	and	Auditorium
14	8,073,700				
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16	UNC Center for Pu	blic Television			
17	Improvements to	Facilities			
18	<u>6,000,000</u>				
19		T	OTAL		
20		\$2	298,000,000		

No University Improvement Bonds or notes shall be issued and no proceeds of University Improvement Bonds and notes shall be allocated for the purposes provided in this act, however, until the General Assembly authorizes issuance of some or all of University Improvement Bonds and notes and appropriates the proceeds of the bonds and notes for specific projects within these purposes by separate legislative action in addition to this act in 1993 or at any subsequent session. It is the intent of the General Assembly that in appropriating the total amount of University Improvement Bonds and notes authorized by this act, the General Assembly shall adhere as closely as feasible to the relative funding amounts for each of the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina as set out in the above chart. Nothing in this act or as a result of the approval of the bonds at the election provided for in this act restricts the right of the General Assembly in 1994 or at a subsequent session to:

- (1) Establish a procedure whereby projected allocations set forth in subsequent legislation may be increased or decreased to reflect the availability of other funds, including, without limitation, contingency funds, income earned on the investment of bond and notes proceeds, and the proceeds of grants.

(2) Establish a contingency account and provide for an allocation of bond proceeds thereto. The funds in the contingency account may be used to pay the cost of projects, the costs of issuance of bonds and notes, and increased project costs resulting from construction costs exceeding projections, inflationary factors, and changes in projects and allocations. The funds allocated to the contingency account shall be

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- placed by the State Treasurer in a separate account in the University
 Improvement Bonds Fund and shall be disbursed in accordance with
 the procedures established for disbursements from the University
 Improvement Bonds Fund.

 State Treasurer in a separate account in the University disbursements from the University
 The Bonds Fund of Governors of The
 - (3) Empower the Director of the Budget or the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, when the Director or the Board determines it is in the best interest of the State and The University of North Carolina to do so, and if the cost of a particular project is less than the projected allocation, to use the excess funds to increase the size of that project or increase the size of any other project itemized by the General Assembly, or to increase the amount allocated to a particular institution or the Board of Governors within the aggregate amount of funds available under this section; the Director of the Budget having the right to consult with the Advisory Budget Commission and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.
 - (4) Provide that the provisions of G.S. 116-11(9) with respect to appropriations to the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina shall not apply to proceeds of University Improvement Bonds and notes issued pursuant to the provisions of this act.

Allocations to the costs of a capital improvement or undertaking in each case may include allocations to pay the costs set forth in Section 3(4)c., d., and e. of this act in connection with the issuance of bonds for that capital improvement or undertaking.

(b) Community College Bonds. The proceeds of Community College 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 fund to be designated "Community College Bonds Fund" and shall be disbursed as provided in this act. Moneys in the Community College Bonds Fund shall be used for making grants to community colleges, as set forth in this act, the proceeds of the grants to be allocated and expended for paying the cost of community college capital improvements, to the extent and as provided in this act and subject to change as provided in this act, as follows:

34 **PROJECTED** 35 COLLEGE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ALLOCATION 36 Alamance CC 11B-Science Labs/Classrooms Phase 37 \$3,427,038 38 Advanced Anson CC Technology Center 39 2,885,361 40 Asheville-41 Buncombe TCC Classroom/Lab/Office Building 42 5,250,000 43 Student Services Beaufort County CC Center 3,009,500 44

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

1 2	Bladen TC	Allied 1,102,062	Health	C	are	Center
3 4	Blue Ridge CC	Allied 5,205,079		Health		Building
5	Brunswick CC	Allied 4,480,000			Heal	th/Classroom
7 8	Caldwell CC & TI	Classroom/Lab 6,524,603				Building
9 10	Cape Fear CC	Health 7,536,953		Sciences		Building
11 12	Carteret CC	Classroom/Stud 2,607,904	lent			Center
13 14	Catawba Valley CC	Classroom/Lab 4,724,468				Building
15 16	Central		Carolina			CC
17 18	Classroom					Building 2
19	,121,771					
20	Central]	Piedmont			CC
21 22 23	Science	L	abs			Expansion 4
24	,261,650					
25	Cleveland CC	Advanced		Technology		Building
26 27	Coastal	2,478,585	Carolina			CC
28	Coustai		Curonna			CC
29	Public	Service		Technology		Bldg.
30						3
31	,298,521					
32	College of the Albemarle Clas	aana ana / A duainiatu	notion Dld	~ 2.251.674		
33 34	Craven CC	ssroom/Administi Academic		g. 3,331,074 es/Basic	Skills	Rldα
35	Clavell CC	2,990,276	Studio	55/Basic	SKIIIS	Bldg.
36	Davidson County CC	Advanced		Technology		Building
37		4,127,187				8
38	Durham TCC	Classroom/Offi	ce			Building
39		6,496,000				
40	Edgecombe CC	Class/Lab	A	Addition-Rocky	y	Mount
41	F#:11: TCC	1,303,000	1	G :		Tr '1'4
42 43	Fayetteville TCC	Health	and	Scien	ce	Facility
43		8,064,000				

1 2	Forsyth TCC	Class/Lab/Adn 8,848,000	nin.	-	East	Campus
3 4	Gaston College	Work 5,441,434	Force	Prej	paredness	Center
5 6	Guilford TCC	Applied 8,668,800		Technology	y	Building
7 8	Halifax CC	Literacy 2,183,592		Ed/Science	e	Building
9 10	Haywood CC	Classroom 1,232,000				Building
11 12	Isothermal CC	Continuing 5,796,944		Educati	on	Center
13 14	James Sprunt CC	Library/Cont. 2,912,000	Е	d/Business	&	Industry
15 16	Johnston CC	Allied 3,303,000		Health		Building
17	Lenoir CC	Renovations/A	dditions			
18 19 20	Martin CC	2,971,021 Equine 605,903				Arena
21 22	Mayland CC	Shop/Student 4,037,566		Lec	ture	Hall
23 24	McDowell TCC	Renov. 569,539		Bookstore	e/Amphitheate	er/Mezzanine
25 26	Mitchell CC	Renovate 2,464,000		Main		Building
27 28	Montgomery CC	LRC 2,903,834				Building
29 30	Nash CC	LRC/Student 4,409,179				Center
31 32	Pamlico CC	Multi-Purpose 1,318,803		Class/0	Office	Bldg.
33 34	Piedmont CC		Learning	Ce	enter/Caswell	Cty.
35 36	Pitt CC	Student 4,750,000		Services		Building
37 38	Randolph CC	Photography 1,103,281				Studio
39 40	Richmond CC	Fine 2,351,414	1	Arts	Ct	r/Auditorium
41 42	Roanoke-Chowan CC	2,331,414 Classroom/Stu 2,854,977	dent	Su	pport	Center
43 44	Robeson CC	Emergency 958,033		Trainin	g	Grounds

1	Rockingham CC	Multi-Purpos	e		Building
2 3	Rowan-Cabarrus CC	3,024,000 Engineering			Building
4 5 6	Sampson CC	4,126,092 Multi-Purpos 2,800,000	e		Building
7	Sandhills CC	Cont.	Ed.	Center/C	Classrooms
8 9 10	Southeastern CC	5,309,500 Nursing/Allie 1,466,528	ed l	Health	Building
11 12	Southwestern CC	Classroom 784,000	Renov./	Expanded	Parking
13 14	Stanly CC	Learning 2,543,940	Res	ource	Center
15 16	Surry CC	Health/Day 4,532,997	Care/	Library	Building
17 18	Tri-County CC	Student 1,216,530	Services	Ctr./Classroom	Bldg.
19 20	Vance-Granville CC	Allied 2,309,200	Health/Day	Care/Classroom	Bldg.
21 22	Wake TCC	Student 11,488,881	Edu	cation	Bldg.
23 24	Wayne CC	Classroom/La 4,300,667	aboratory		Building
25 26	Western Piedmont CC	Class/Office	Bldg.	(Bus.	Tech.)
272829	3,830,588 Wilkes CC	LRC-Student 4,864,300	;	De	evelopment
30 31	Wilson TCC	Multi-Purpos 1,120,000	e		Building
32 33		TOTAL \$210,000,000)		

No Community College Bonds or notes shall be issued for grants as provided in this act and no proceeds of Community College Bonds and notes shall be allocated for grants for the purposes provided in this act, however, until the General Assembly authorizes issuance of some or all Community College Bonds and notes to be used for grants and appropriates the proceeds of the bonds and notes for grants for specific projects within these purposes by separate legislative action in addition to this act in 1993 or at any subsequent session. In appropriating the proceeds of the Community College Bonds and notes, the General Assembly shall provide a grant for at least one project for each community college in this State. Nothing in this act or as a result of the

approval of the bonds at the election provided for in this act restricts the right of the General Assembly in 1994 or at a subsequent session to:

- (1) Establish a procedure whereby projected allocations set forth in subsequent legislation may be increased or decreased to reflect the availability of other funds, including, without limitation, contingency funds, income earned on the investment of bond and notes proceeds, and the proceeds of grants.
- (2) Establish a contingency account and provide for an allocation of bond proceeds thereto. The funds in the contingency account may be used to pay the cost of projects, the costs of issuance of bonds and notes, and increased project costs resulting from construction costs exceeding projections, inflationary factors, and changes in projects and allocations. The funds allocated to the contingency account shall be placed by the State Treasurer in a separate account in the Community College Bonds Fund and shall be disbursed in accordance with the procedures established for disbursements from the Community College Bonds Fund.
- (3) Empower the State Board of Community Colleges, when the State Board of Community Colleges determines it is in the best interest of the State and the Community College System to do so, and if the cost of a particular project is less than the projected allocation, to use the excess funds to increase the size of that project or increase the size of any other project authorized by the General Assembly, or to increase the amount allocated to a particular institution within the aggregate amount of funds available under this section. To the extent that funds are not required to be expended for the specific projects prescribed by the General Assembly, the General Assembly may provide that allocations authorized by it may be used for capital outlay projects at any community college or colleges, including community colleges not described by the General Assembly as replacement projects, but none of the funds may be used for operating expenditures.

Allocations to the costs of a capital improvement or undertaking in each case may include allocations to pay the costs set forth in Section 3(4)c., d., and e. of this act in connection with the issuance of bonds for that capital improvement or undertaking. The matching requirements of G.S. 115D-31(a)(1) apply to the proceeds of Community College Bonds and notes used to make grants to community or technical colleges.

(c) Clean Water Bonds. The proceeds of Clean Water 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 fund to be designated "Clean Water Bonds Fund", which may include such appropriate special accounts therein as may be determined by the State Treasurer, and shall be disbursed as provided in this act. Moneys in the Clean Water Bonds Fund shall be allocated and expended as provided in

44 this act.

 (d) State Parks Bonds. 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 fund to be designated "State Parks Bonds Fund", which may include such appropriate special accounts therein as may be determined by the State Treasurer, and shall be disbursed as provided in this act. Moneys in the State Parks Bonds Fund shall be used for the purposes set forth in this act, and the particular projects within such purposes to be financed in whole or in part from the proceeds shall be determined as hereinafter provided.

No State Parks Bonds or notes shall be issued and no proceeds of State Parks Bonds and notes shall be allocated for the purposes provided in this act, however, until the General Assembly authorizes issuance of some or all of State Parks Bonds and notes and appropriates the proceeds of the bonds and notes for specific projects within these purposes by separate legislative action in addition to this act in 1993 or at any subsequent session. It is the intent of the General Assembly to appropriate approximately one-half the proceeds of the bonds and notes for repairs, renovations, and new construction and approximately one-half the proceeds of the bonds and notes for land acquisition. It is the intent of the General Assembly to appropriate the proceeds of the bonds and notes in 1994 or at a subsequent session based on the recommendations of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources in its State parks capital improvement and land acquisition plan submitted to the General Assembly in May 1994 as provided in Section 11 of this act. Nothing in this act or as a result of the approval of the bonds at the election provided for in this act restricts the right of the General Assembly in 1994 or at a subsequent session to:

- (1) Establish a procedure whereby projected allocations set forth in subsequent legislation may be increased or decreased to reflect the availability of other funds, including, without limitation, contingency funds, income earned on the investment of bond and notes proceeds, and the proceeds of grants.
- (2) Establish a contingency account and provide for an allocation of bond proceeds thereto. The funds in the contingency account may be used to pay the cost of projects, the costs of issuance of bonds and notes, and increased project costs resulting from construction costs exceeding projections, inflationary factors, and changes in projects and allocations. The funds allocated to the contingency account shall be placed by the State Treasurer in a separate account in the State Parks Bonds Fund and shall be disbursed in accordance with the procedures established for disbursements from the State Parks Bonds Fund.
- (3) Empower the Director of the Budget, when the Director determines it is in the best interest of the State and the State Parks System to do so, and if the cost of a particular project is less than the projected allocation, to use the excess funds to increase the size of that project or increase the size of any other project itemized by the General Assembly, or to increase the amount allocated to a particular project

within the aggregate amount of funds available under this section; the Director of the Budget having the right to consult with the Advisory Budget Commission and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations.

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- Provide that to the extent that funds are not required to be expended **(4)** for the specific projects identified by the General Assembly, allocations may be used for capital outlay projects at any State parks as replacement projects, but no such funds may be used for operating expenditures.

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Allocations to the costs of a capital improvement or undertaking in each case may include allocations to pay the costs set forth in Section 3(4)c., d., and e. of this act in connection with the issuance of bonds for that capital improvement or undertaking.

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Sec. 7. Election. The questions of the issuance of the bonds authorized by this act shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November 1993. 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.

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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 or other funds available to the State Board of Elections.

Voting machines, ballots, or both may be used in accordance with rules prescribed by the State Board of Elections. The bond questions to be used in the voting machines and ballots shall be in substantially the following forms:

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FOR the issuance of two hundred ninety-eight million dollars "[] (\$298,000,000) State of North Carolina University Improvement 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, to pay the cost of capital improvements at the constituent or affiliated institutions and the Center for Public Television of The University of North Carolina.

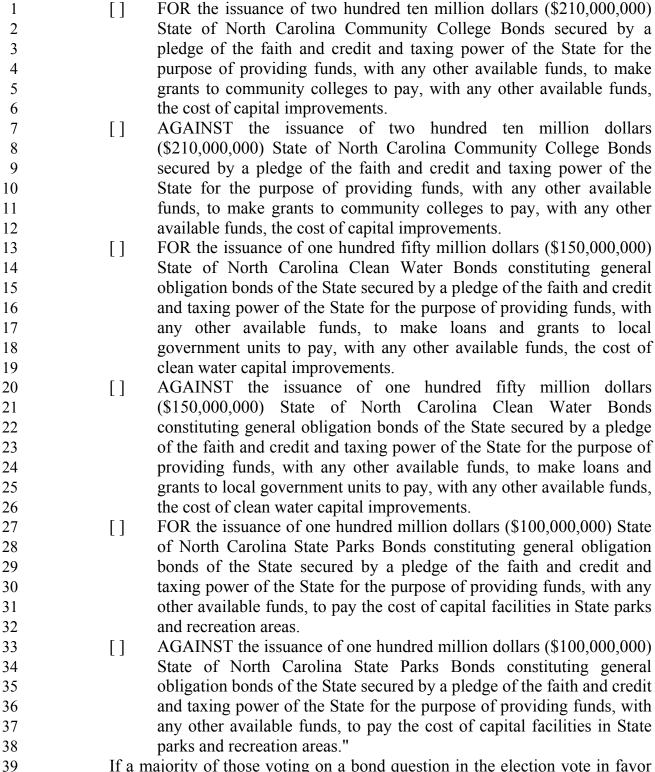
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41 42 AGAINST the issuance of two hundred ninety-eight million dollars (\$298,000,000) State of North Carolina University Improvement Bonds constituting general obligation bonds of the State secured by a pledge of the faith and credit and taxing power of the State for the purpose of providing funds, with any other available funds, to pay the cost of capital improvements at the constituent or affiliated institutions and the Center for Public Television of The University of North Carolina.



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

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43 44 The results of the election shall be canvassed and declared as provided by law for elections for State officers; the results of the election shall be 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.

- Sec. 8. 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.
- 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 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 the notes, as the State

Treasurer may determine. All expenses incurred in 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.

- 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 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 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 and income taxes on the gain from the transfer of bonds and notes. The interest on bonds and notes shall not be subject to taxation as to income.
- (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. In addition to the State's right to amend any provision of this act to the extent it does not impair any contractual right of a bond owner, the State expressly reserves the right to amend any provision of this act with respect to the making and repayment of loans, the disposition of any repayments of loans, and any intercept provisions relating to the failure of a local government unit to repay a loan, the bonds not being secured in any respect by loans, any repayments thereof, or any intercept provisions with respect thereto.
- Sec. 9. 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 or 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. 10. Special provisions governing clean water loans. (a) Scope. The provisions of this section shall apply to loans being made from the proceeds of bonds authorized by this act for clean water projects, other than from funds deposited in the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund.
 - (b) Clean Water Bonds Loan Fund.

- (1) There is established in the Department of State Treasurer a fund to be known as the Clean Water Bonds Loan Fund. The Fund shall contain any special or segregated accounts the State Treasurer considers appropriate. There shall be deposited to accounts of the Clean Water Bonds Loan Fund the proceeds of the Clean Water Bonds and notes to be used to make loans, other than loans to be made through the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund, for costs of clean water projects. The funds may be invested in the same manner permitted for investments of funds belonging to the State or held in the State treasury. Interest earnings derived from these investments shall be credited to the Fund.
- (2) Distribution of funds. All appropriated or bond funds accruing to the Clean Water Bonds Loan Fund, other than funds set aside for administrative expenses, including expenses related to determining compliance with applicable requirements of the federal tax law and costs of issuance, shall be used for loans for the purposes provided in this act.
- (3) The maximum principal amount of a loan may be one hundred percent (100%) of the cost of any eligible project.
- (4) The State Treasurer shall be responsible for investing and distributing all funds appropriated or accruing to the Clean Water Bonds Loan Fund. Subject to any applicable requirements of the federal tax law, the State Treasurer shall arrange for the funds to be transferred from the appropriate accounts to a local government unit or shall invest the funds as authorized by this act with the interest on and the principal of the investments to be transferred to the local government unit to provide funds for one or more loans.
- (c) Application for Loans; Hearings.
 - (1) Eligibility/Initial Hearing.
 - a. Prior to filing an application for a loan, a local government unit shall hold a public hearing. A notice of the public hearing shall be published once at least 10 days before the date fixed for the hearing.
 - b. All applications for loans shall be filed with the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. If the application is denied, the application shall then be considered at the next available period. All applications approved by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall be filed with the Local Government Commission. Each applicant shall furnish information in addition or supplemental to the information contained in its application, upon request.
 - c. A local government unit shall not be eligible for a loan unless it demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources that:

- The applicant is a local government unit or a consortium 1. 1 2 of local government units; 3 2. The applicant has the financial capacity to pay the principal of and interest on its proposed obligations and 4 5 loans, as evidenced by the approval of the Local 6 Government Commission: 7 3. The applicant has substantially complied or will 8 substantially comply with all applicable laws, rules, 9 regulations, and ordinances, whether federal, State, or 10 local; and 4. The applicant has agreed by official resolution to adopt 11 12 and place into effect on or before completion a schedule of fees and charges or the application of other sources of 13 14 revenue which will provide adequate funds for proper 15 operation, maintenance, and administration of the project 16 and repayment of all principal and interest on loans. Every applicant shall file with its application an 17 **(2)** Assessment. 18 assessment of the impact the project for which the funds are sought will have upon meeting the facility needs of the area within which the 19 20 project is to be located. 21 (3) Hearing by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. A public hearing may be held by the Department of 22 23 Environment, Health, and Natural Resources or the Local Government 24 Commission at any time on any application. Public hearings may also be held by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural 25 Resources upon written request from any citizen or taxpayer who is a 26 27 resident of the county or counties in which the project is to be located if it appears that the public interest will be served by the hearing. The 28 29 written request will set forth each objection to the proposed project or 30 other reason for requesting a hearing on the application and shall contain the name and address of the persons submitting it. 31 32 Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources may 33 consider all written objections to the proposed project and other 34 statements along with the application including any significant 35 considerations on facility needs and shall determine if the public 36 interest will be served by a hearing. The determination by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources will be 37 38 conclusive and all written requests for a hearing shall be retained as a 39 permanent part of the records pertaining to the application. To be eligible to receive the loans provided for in this act, local 40 **(4)** 41 government units shall arrange to borrow the amounts necessary
 - pursuant to rules adopted by the Local Government Commission.

 (5) A petition, demanding that the question of whether to enter into a loan agreement with the State under this act be submitted to voters, may be

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filed with the clerk of the local government unit applying for the loan within 15 days after the public hearing required by the local government unit. The petition's sufficiency shall be determined and a referendum, if any, shall be conducted, according to the standards, procedures, and limitations set out in G.S. 159-60 through G.S. 159-62.

- (d) Priorities.
 - (1) Determination. Determination of priorities to be assigned each eligible application shall be made semiannually by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources during each fiscal year. Every eligible application shall be considered by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources with every other application eligible during this same priority period.
 - (2) Priority Factors. All applications for loans under this act shall be assigned a priority by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall establish by rule the priority factors criteria.
 - (3) Assignment of Priority. A written statement relative to each priority assigned shall be prepared by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources and shall be attached to the application. The priority assigned shall be conclusive.
 - (4) Failure to Qualify. If an application does not qualify for a loan as of the prior period in which the application was eligible for consideration by reason of the priority assigned, the application shall be considered during the next succeeding priority period upon request of the applicant. If the application again fails to qualify for a loan during the second priority period by reason of the priority assigned, the application shall receive no further consideration. An applicant may file a new application at any time and may amend any pending application to include additional data or information.
 - (5) Withdrawal of Commitment. Failure of an applicant within one year after the date of acceptance of the loan to arrange for necessary financing of the proposed project or award of the contract of the construction of the proposed project shall constitute sufficient cause for withdrawal of the commitment. Prior to withdrawal of a commitment, the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall give due consideration to any extenuating circumstances presented by the applicant as reasons for failure to arrange necessary financing or to award a contract, and the commitment may be extended for an additional period of time if, in the judgment of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, the extension is justified.
- (e) Disbursement. No funds shall be disbursed until the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources gives a certificate of eligibility to the

 effect that the applicant meets all eligibility criteria and that all procedural requirements of this act have been met.

(f) Intercept. The governing body of a local government unit shall include in its resolution authorizing a loan pursuant to this section a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of the local government unit to make a scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the local government unit any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan. In such event, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the State Treasurer shall be authorized to withhold and apply such funds to the repayment of the loan; provided, however, that such funds shall not be withheld if the source of the funds to be withheld secures special obligation bonds or other obligations of the local government unit.

The State Treasurer shall notify the Secretary of Revenue or other appropriate State agency and the State Controller of the amount to be withheld from the local government unit, and the Secretary of Revenue and the State Controller shall transfer to the State Treasurer the amount so requested to be applied by the State Treasurer to the repayment of the loan.

- (g) Inspection. Inspection of a project for which a loan has been made under this act may be performed by qualified personnel of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources or may be performed by qualified engineers registered in this State approved by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. No person shall be approved to perform inspections who is an officer employed by the local government unit to which the loan was made or who is an owner, officer, employer, or agent of a contractor or subcontractor engaged in the construction of the project for which the loan was made. For the purpose of payment of inspection fees, inspection services shall be included in the term "construction cost" as used in this act.
- (h) Rules. The State Treasurer, the Local Government Commission, and the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources may adopt, modify, and repeal rules necessary for the administration of their respective duties under this act. Uniform rules may be jointly adopted where feasible and desirable, and no rule, jointly adopted, may be modified or revoked except upon concurrence of all agencies involved.
- (i) Federal Grants and Loans. In order to carry out the purposes of this act to secure the greatest possible benefits to the citizens of this State of the funds appropriated, the State Treasurer, the Local Government Commission, and the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall adopt rules and criteria, not inconsistent with provisions of this act, as are necessary and appropriate to conform to regulations for federal grants and loans for any of the purposes set forth in this act.
- (j) Reports. The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall prepare and file each year on or before July 31 with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations a consolidated report for the preceding fiscal year concerning the allocation of loans authorized by this act. The report shall set forth for the preceding fiscal year itemized and total allocations of loans authorized and unallocated funds on hand in each as of the end of the preceding fiscal year;

identification of each loan made by the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources during the preceding fiscal year; the total amount of the loans and the sums actually paid during the preceding fiscal year to each loan and to each loan previously committed but unpaid; the total loans paid during the preceding fiscal year; and summary for all preceding years and the total number of the loans made and the total funds committed to the loans and the total sum actually paid to the loans and grants. The report shall be signed by the Secretary of the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources.

- (k) Local Government Commission.
- (1) Local government units may execute debt instruments payable to the State in order to obtain loans provided for in this act. Local government units shall pledge or agree to apply as security for such obligations:
 - a. Any available source of revenues of the local government unit, including revenues from benefitted facilities or systems, provided that (i) the local government unit has not otherwise pledged the revenues as security for, or agreed to apply the revenues to, the payment of any other obligations of the local government unit, (ii) the use of revenues is not otherwise restricted by law, or (iii) the revenues are not derived from the exercise of the local government unit's taxing power; or
 - b. Their faith and credit; or
 - c. Any combination of a. or b. above.

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 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes have been met. The State Treasurer, with the assistance of the Local Government Commission, shall develop and adopt appropriate debt instruments for use under this act. The Local Government Commission shall develop and adopt appropriate procedures for the delivery of debt instruments to the State without any public bidding therefor.

- (2) Nothing contained in this act shall prohibit any local government unit from applying any funds of the local government unit not otherwise restricted as to use by law to the payment of any debt instrument payable to the State incurred pursuant to the provisions of this act.
- (3) The Local Government Commission shall review and approve proposed loans to local government units under this act under the provisions of Articles 4 and 5 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes. The Local Government Commission in considering the ability of a local government unit to repay a loan may regard as a source of revenue for repayment of a loan revenue sources that may not be available other than on an annual discretionary basis and that may not be subject to a pledge or agreement to apply. Loans under this act

- shall be outstanding debts for the purposes of Article 10 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes.
 - (4) The State Treasurer shall annually certify to the General Assembly the financial condition of the loan program and identify existing delinquencies.
 - Sec. 11. State parks capital improvement and land acquisition plan. The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall develop a State parks capital improvement and land acquisition plan that recommends two priority lists of needed projects for the entire park system, one priority list for renovations, repairs, and new construction, and one priority list for land acquisition. The priority lists shall be based on objective criteria and shall include the costs of each project and the basis for calculating the costs. The Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources shall report its recommendations to the General Assembly on or before May 1, 1994, by delivering copies to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Fiscal Research Division.
 - Sec. 12. 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) Statutory References. References in this act to specific sections or Chapters of the General Statutes or to specific acts are intended to be references to these sections, Chapters, or acts as they may be amended from time to time by the General Assembly.
 - (c) 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.
 - (d) 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.
 - (e) 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. 13. Effective date. This act is effective upon ratification.