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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 2000



ENROLLED

Committee Substitute for
SENATE BILL NO. 175

(By Senators Tomblin, Mr. President, and
Sprouse, By Request of the Executive)



PASSED March 11, 2000
In Effect from Passage

ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 175

(SENATORS TOMBLIN, MR. PRESIDENT, AND SPROUSE,
BY REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE, *original sponsors*)

[Passed March 11, 2000; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend chapter twelve of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article eight, relating to the West Virginia pension liability redemption act; providing for declaration of policy, legislative findings, legislative intent and scope of provisions; providing for definitions; providing for the redemption of the previous liability of the state consisting of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of certain pension systems through the issuance of bonds for such purpose; providing for the issuance of such bonds and for the determination of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability; requiring adoption of resolution by Legislature authorizing the issuance of bonds;

providing for the method of bond issuance and the manner of sale of bonds; providing for the authority of the department of administration to select, employ and compensate counsel, underwriters, advisors, consultants and agents to carry out the purposes of this article; providing for the authority of the state treasurer to select, employ and compensate special counsel to advise the state treasurer; providing authority to enter into contracts with obligation holders; providing for the terms and provisions of bonds, trust indentures and other agreements; providing for the redemption of the previous liability of the state, which is the unfunded actuarial accrued liability, with proceeds of the sale of bonds; providing for investment planning for the assets of the pension systems after deposit of the bond proceeds; providing for payment of costs of issuing bonds and review committee to review and approve same; limiting amount of bonds that may be issued; creating the pension liability redemption fund; providing for pension liability redemption payments; providing for refunding bonds; providing for state pledges and covenants relating to bonds; providing for legal remedies of obligation holders; providing that bonds are negotiable instruments; providing that bonds are legal investments in the state; providing that bonds and the income therefrom are exempt from taxation in the state; providing for supersedure; requiring a judicial determination prior to the issuance of bonds; and providing for severability of provisions of this article.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That chapter twelve of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated article eight, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 8. PENSION LIABILITY REDEMPTION.

§12-8-1. Short title.

1 This article shall be known and may be cited as the
2 pension liability redemption act.

§12-8-2. Declaration of policy; legislative findings; legislative intent.

1 The Legislature finds and declares that:

2 (a) The Legislature has established a number of pension
3 systems, including the death, disability and retirement
4 fund of the department of public safety established in
5 article two, chapter fifteen of this code; the judges' retire-
6 ment system established in article nine, chapter fifty-one
7 of this code; and the teachers retirement system estab-
8 lished in article seven-a, chapter eighteen of this code,
9 each of which is a trust for the benefit of the participating
10 public employees.

11 (b) The supreme court of appeals of West Virginia has
12 ruled that the Legislature is obligated to fund these
13 pension systems on an actuarially sound basis and that
14 pension system obligations are legitimate debts of the
15 state.

16 (c) As a result of financial distress that occurred in the
17 state during the 1980s, the death, disability and retirement
18 fund of the department of public safety, the judges'
19 retirement system and the teachers retirement system each
20 has a significant unfunded actuarial accrued liability
21 which is being amortized over a term of years ending no
22 later than two thousand thirty-four through annual
23 appropriations in addition to amounts appropriated
24 annually for the normal cost contribution to these pension
25 systems.

26 (d) The supreme court of appeals has ruled that the
27 unfunded actuarial accrued liability of pension systems is
28 a public debt of the state that must be repaid.

29 (e) The unfunded actuarial accrued liability of each
30 pension system is a previous liability of the state. The
31 supreme court of appeals has held that the Legislature
32 may choose to redeem a previous liability of the state
33 through the issuance of bonds.

34 (f) This article provides for the redemption of the
35 unfunded actuarial accrued liability of each pension
36 system, which is a previous liability of the state, through
37 the issuance of bonds for the purpose of: (i) Providing for
38 the safety and soundness of the pension systems; and (ii)
39 redeeming each such previous liability of the pension
40 systems in order to realize savings over the remaining term
41 of the amortization schedules of the unfunded actuarial
42 accrued liabilities and thereby achieve budgetary savings.

§12-8-3. Definitions.

1 As used in this article, unless the context clearly requires
2 a different meaning:

3 (1) "Bonds" means bonds, notes, refunding notes and
4 bonds, or other obligations of the state issued by the
5 governor pursuant to this article.

6 (2) "Consolidated public retirement board" means the
7 board created to administer all public retirement plans in
8 this state under article ten-d of chapter five of this code
9 and any board or agency that succeeds to the powers and
10 duties of the consolidated public retirement board.

11 (3) "Costs" include, but are not limited to, amounts
12 necessary to fund any capitalized interest funds and any
13 reserve funds, any costs relating to the issuance and
14 determination of the validity of the bonds, fees for obtain-
15 ing bond insurance, credit enhancements or liquidity
16 facilities, administrative costs, fees incurred pursuant to
17 subsection (f), section five of this article and costs attribut-

18 able to the agreements described in section six of this
19 article.

20 (4) “Death, disability and retirement fund” means the
21 death, disability and retirement fund of the department of
22 public safety created by article two, chapter fifteen of this
23 code.

24 (5) “Department of administration” means the depart-
25 ment established pursuant to article one, chapter five-a of
26 this code and any board or agency that succeeds to the
27 powers and duties of the department of administration.

28 (6) “Executive order” means an executive order issued
29 by the governor to authorize the issuance of bonds as
30 provided in this article.

31 (7) “Investment management board” means the board
32 established under article six, chapter twelve of this code
33 and any board or agency that succeeds to the powers and
34 duties of the investment management board.

35 (8) “Judges’ retirement system” means the judicial
36 retirement system created under article nine, chapter fifty-
37 one of this code.

38 (9) “Obligation holders” means any holder or owner of
39 any bond, any trustee or other fiduciary for any such
40 holder, or any provider of a letter of credit, policy of bond
41 insurance, surety, or other credit enhancement or liquidity
42 facility or swap relating to any bond.

43 (10) “Pension liability redemption fund” means the
44 special account in the state treasury created pursuant to
45 subsection (a), section eight of this article.

46 (11) “Pension liability redemption payments” means: (a)
47 The principal of, premium, if any, and interest on any
48 outstanding bonds issued pursuant to this article; and
49 (b) any other amounts required to be paid pursuant to the

50 terms of any outstanding bonds, any indenture authorized
51 pursuant to this article and any other agreement entered
52 into between the governor and any obligation holder.

53 (12) "Pension systems" means the judges' retirement
54 system, the death, disability and retirement fund and the
55 teachers retirement fund.

56 (13) "Refund" or "refunding" means the issuance and
57 sale of bonds the proceeds of which are used or are to be
58 used for the payment, defeasance or redemption of out-
59 standing bonds upon or prior to maturity.

60 (14) "Refunding bonds" means bonds issued for the
61 payment, defeasance or redemption of outstanding bonds
62 upon or prior to maturity.

63 (15) "Teachers retirement system" means the retirement
64 system established in article seven-a, chapter eighteen of
65 this code.

66 (16) "True interest cost" means the interest rate that,
67 when compounded at time intervals consistent with the
68 structure of the bond issue and used to discount the
69 payments of principal of and interest on the bonds, causes
70 such discounted principal and interest payments to equal
71 the purchase price of the bonds. To ensure that the costs of
72 issuance of the bonds are included in the true interest cost,
73 the costs of issuance shall be deducted from the purchase
74 price of the bonds before calculating the interest rate.

75 (17) "Normal cost" means the value of benefits accruing
76 for the current valuation year under the actuarial cost
77 method.

78 (18) "Actuarial cost method" means a mathematical
79 process in which the cost of benefits projected to be paid
80 after a period of active employment has ended is allocated

81 over the period of active employment during which such
82 benefits are earned.

83 (19) "Unfunded actuarial accrued liability" means the
84 aggregate of the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of
85 the pension systems, with the unfunded actuarial accrued
86 liability of each pension system being calculated in an
87 actuarial valuation report provided by the consolidated
88 public retirement board to the department of administra-
89 tion pursuant to section four of this article.

§12-8-4. Issuance of bonds; determination of unfunded actuarial accrued liability.

1 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code and
2 pursuant to section four, article ten of the constitution of
3 West Virginia, the governor shall have the power, as
4 provided by this article, to issue the bonds authorized in
5 this section at a time or times as provided by a resolution
6 adopted by the legislature to redeem a previous liability of
7 the state by funding all or a portion of the unfunded
8 actuarial accrued liability, such bonds to be payable from
9 and secured by moneys deposited in the pension liability
10 redemption fund. Any bonds issued pursuant to this
11 article, other than refunding bonds, shall be issued no later
12 than five years after the date of issuance of the judicial
13 determination referred to in section fifteen of this article.

14 (b) The aggregate principal amount of bonds issued
15 pursuant to the provisions of this article is limited to no
16 more than the lesser of the following: (1) The principal
17 amount necessary, after deduction of costs, underwriter's
18 discount and original issue discount, if any, to fund not in
19 excess of one hundred percent of the unfunded actuarial
20 accrued liability of the death, disability and retirement
21 fund of the department of public safety established in
22 article two, chapter fifteen of this code, one hundred
23 percent of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the

24 judges' retirement system established in article nine,
25 chapter fifty-one of this code, and ninety-five percent of
26 the unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the teachers
27 retirement system established in article seven-a, chapter
28 eighteen of this code, as certified by the consolidated
29 public retirement board to the department of administra-
30 tion pursuant to subsection (e) of this section; or (2) three
31 billion nine hundred million dollars; but in no event shall
32 the aggregate principal amount of bonds issue exceed the
33 principal amount necessary, after deduction of costs,
34 underwriter's discount and original issue discount, if any,
35 to fund not in excess of the total unfunded actuarial
36 accrued liability, as certified by the consolidated public
37 retirement board to the department of administration
38 pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

39 (c) The costs of issuance, excluding fees for bond insur-
40 ance credit enhancements and liquidity facilities, plus
41 underwriter's discount and any other costs associated with
42 the issuance shall not exceed, in the aggregate, the sum
43 of one percent of the aggregate principal amount of
44 bonds issued. All such costs shall be subject to the review
45 and approval of a majority of the members of a review
46 committee. The review committee shall consist of two
47 members appointed by the governor from a list of three
48 persons submitted by the president of the Senate; two
49 members appointed by the governor from a list of three
50 persons submitted by the speaker of the House of Dele-
51 gates; the state treasurer; and four persons having skill
52 and experience in bond issuance, appointed by the Gover-
53 nor.

54 (d) The limitation on the aggregate principal amount of
55 bonds provided in this section shall not preclude the
56 issuance of bonds from time to time or in one or more
57 series.

58 (e) No later than ten days after receipt of a request from
59 the department of administration, the consolidated public
60 retirement board shall provide the department of adminis-
61 tration with a certified statement of the amount of each
62 pension system's unfunded actuarial accrued liability
63 calculated in an actuarial valuation report that establishes
64 the amount of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability as
65 of a date specified by the department of administration,
66 based upon each pension system's most recent actuarial
67 valuation.

68 (f) No later than fifteen days after receipt of a request
69 from the governor, the department of administration shall
70 provide the governor with a certification of the maximum
71 aggregate principal amount of bonds that maybe issued at
72 that time pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

**§12-8-5. Method of bond issuance; manner of sale of bonds;
authority of department of administration.**

1 (a) The governor may, by executive message, request the
2 Legislature prepare and consider a resolution authorizing
3 the issuance of bonds described in section four of this
4 article. The executive message shall specify the maximum
5 costs associated with the issue. Upon the adoption of a
6 resolution by the Legislature authorizing the issuance of
7 the bonds in the amount and upon the terms specified in
8 the resolution, the bonds shall be authorized by an execu-
9 tive order issued by the governor. The executive order
10 shall be received by the secretary of state and filed in the
11 state register pursuant to section three, article two,
12 chapter twenty-nine-a of this code. The governor, either
13 in the executive order authorizing the issuance of the
14 bonds or by the execution and delivery by the governor of
15 a trust indenture or agreement authorized in such execu-
16 tive order, shall stipulate the form of the bonds, whether
17 the bonds are to be issued in one or more series, the date or
18 dates of issue, the time or times of maturity, which shall

19 not exceed the longest remaining term of the current
20 amortization schedules for the unfunded actuarial accrued
21 liability, the rate or rates of interest payable on the bonds,
22 which may be at fixed rates or variable rates and which
23 interest may be current interest or may accrue, the denom-
24 ination or denominations in which the bonds are issued,
25 the conversion or registration privileges applicable to
26 some or all of the bonds, the sources and medium of
27 payment and place or places of payment, the terms of
28 redemption, any privileges of exchangeability or
29 interchangeability applicable to the bonds, and the
30 entitlement of obligation holders to priorities of payment
31 or security in the amounts deposited in the pension
32 liability redemption fund. Bonds shall be signed by the
33 governor and attested by the secretary of state, by either
34 manual or facsimile signatures. The governor shall not
35 sign the bonds unless he shall first make a written finding,
36 which shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, the
37 secretary of state, the speaker of the House of Delegates
38 and the president of the Senate, that: (i) The true interest
39 cost of the bonds is at least thirty basis points less than the
40 assumed actuarial interest rate used to calculate the
41 unfunded actuarial accrued liability; and (ii) that the
42 issuance of the bonds will not in any manner cause a down
43 grade or reduction in the state's general obligation credit
44 rating by standard bond rating agencies.

45 (b) The bonds may be sold at public or private sale at a
46 price or prices determined by the governor. The governor
47 is authorized to enter into any agreements necessary or
48 desirable to effectuate the purposes of this section, includ-
49 ing agreements to sell bonds to any person and to comply
50 with the laws of any jurisdiction relating thereto.

51 (c) The governor, in the executive order authorizing the
52 issuance of bonds or by the execution and delivery by the
53 governor of a trust indenture or agreement authorized in

54 such executive order, may covenant as to the use and
55 disposition of or pledge of funds made available for
56 pension liability redemption payments or any reserve
57 funds established pursuant to such executive order or
58 established pursuant to any indenture authorized by such
59 executive order. All costs may be paid by or upon the
60 order of the governor from amounts received from the
61 proceeds of the bonds and from amounts received pursuant
62 to section eight of this article.

63 (d) Bonds may be issued by the governor upon resolution
64 adopted by the Legislature authorizing the same.

65 (e) Neither the governor, the secretary of state, nor any
66 other person executing or attesting the bonds or any
67 agreement authorized in this article shall be personally
68 liable with respect to payment of any pension liability
69 redemption payments.

70 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, and
71 subject to the approval of the review committee, the
72 department of administration, in the department's discre-
73 tion: (i) Shall select, employ and compensate one or more
74 persons or firms to serve as bond counsel or cobond
75 counsel who shall be responsible for the issuance of a final
76 approving opinion regarding the legality of the bonds
77 issued pursuant to this article; (ii) may select, employ and
78 compensate one or more persons or firms to serve as
79 underwriter or counderwriter for any issuance of bonds
80 pursuant to this article; and (iii) may select, employ and
81 compensate one or more fiduciaries, financial advisors and
82 experts, other legal counsel, placement agents, appraisers,
83 actuaries and such other advisors, consultants and agents
84 as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this
85 article. Notwithstanding the provisions of article three,
86 chapter five of this code, bond counsel may represent the
87 state in court, render advice and provide other legal
88 services as may be requested by the governor or the

89 department of administration regarding any bond issuance
90 pursuant to this article and all other matters relating to
91 the bonds.

92 (g) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, and
93 subject to the approval of the review committee, the state
94 treasurer, in the state treasurer's discretion shall select,
95 employ and compensate an independent person or firm to
96 serve as special counsel to the state treasurer to advise the
97 state treasurer with respect to the state treasurer's duties
98 pursuant to this article.

**§12-8-6. Contracts with obligation holders; provisions of bonds
and trust indentures and other agreements.**

1 (a) The governor may enter into contracts with obliga-
2 tion holders and the governor shall have the authority to
3 comply fully with the terms and provisions of any con-
4 tracts made with obligation holders.

5 (b) In addition and not in limitation to the other provi-
6 sions of this section, in connection with any bonds issued
7 pursuant to this article, the governor may enter into: (i)
8 Commitments to purchase or sell bonds and bond purchase
9 or sale agreements; (ii) agreements providing for credit
10 enhancement or liquidity, including revolving credit
11 agreements, agreements establishing lines of credit or
12 letters of credit, insurance contracts, surety bonds and
13 reimbursement agreements; (iii) agreements to manage
14 interest rate exposure and the return on investments,
15 including interest rate exchange agreements, interest rate
16 cap, collar, corridor, ceiling and floor agreements, option,
17 rate spread or similar exposure agreements, float agree-
18 ments and forward agreements; (iv) stock exchange listing
19 agreements; and (v) any other commitments, contracts or
20 agreements approved by the governor.

21 (c) The governor may covenant as to the bonds to be
22 issued and as to the issuance of such bonds, in escrow or

23 otherwise, provide for the replacement of lost, destroyed
24 or mutilated bonds, covenant against extending the time
25 for the payment of bonds or interest thereon and covenant
26 for the redemption of bonds and provide the terms and
27 conditions of such redemption.

28 (d) Except as otherwise provided in any executive order
29 or in this article, the terms of the executive order and of
30 this article in effect on the date the bonds are issued shall
31 constitute a contract between the state and obligation
32 holders. Any representation, warranty or covenant made
33 by the governor in the executive order, any indenture of
34 trust or trust agreement authorized by the executive order,
35 any bond or any other contract entered into pursuant to
36 this article with any obligation holder shall be a represen-
37 tation, warranty or covenant made by the state.

38 (e) The governor may vest in the obligation holders, or
39 any portion of them, the right to enforce the payment of
40 the bonds or agreements authorized in this article or any
41 covenants securing or relating to the bonds or such
42 agreements. The governor may prescribe the procedure, if
43 any, by which the terms of any contract with obligation
44 holders may be supplemented, amended or abrogated,
45 prescribe which supplements or amendments will require
46 the consent of obligation holders and the portion of
47 obligation holders required to effect such consent and
48 prescribe the manner in which such consent may be given.

§12-8-7. Proceeds from the sale of bonds.

1 (a) The proceeds from the sale of bonds, other than
2 refunding bonds, issued pursuant to this article, after
3 payment of any costs payable at time of issuance of such
4 bonds, shall be paid to the consolidated public retirement
5 board to redeem the unfunded actuarial accrued liability,
6 which is a previous liability of the state, by funding the

7 amount of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability
8 provided for by such bonds.

9 (b) From time to time when requested by the department
10 of administration, the investment management board shall
11 prepare and submit to the governor, the speaker of the
12 House of Delegates, the president of the Senate and the
13 department of administration the short-term and long-
14 term investment strategies that the investment manage-
15 ment board intends to follow for investment of the plan
16 assets of the pension systems, as adjusted by the deposit of
17 the proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to this article.

18 (c) Commencing with the fiscal year following the fiscal
19 year during which a series of bonds is issued under this
20 article and the proceeds thereof are deposited into the
21 applicable pension systems, annual appropriations by the
22 state into the teachers retirement pension system required
23 under other provisions of this code shall equal the amount
24 necessary to pay the normal cost and the scheduled
25 payment of the remaining unfunded actuarial accrued
26 liability, if any, of such pension system: *Provided*, That if
27 such amount in any one fiscal year is less than the mem-
28 bers' required contributions to such plan, as expressed as
29 a percentage of members' payroll, the state shall deposit
30 into the pension liability redemption fund an amount
31 expressed as a percentage of members' payroll, represent-
32 ing the difference between what the state contributes to
33 such plan, expressed as a percentage of members' payroll,
34 and what the members contribute to the plan, expressed as
35 a percent of members' payroll.

**§12-8-8. Creation of pension liability redemption fund; dis-
bursements to pay pension liability redemption
payments.**

1 (a) There is hereby created a special account in the state
2 treasury to be administered by the state treasurer, which

3 shall be designated and known as the “pension liability
4 redemption fund”, into which shall be deposited any and
5 all amounts appropriated by the Legislature or funds from
6 any other source whatsoever which are made available by
7 law for the purpose of making pension liability redemp-
8 tion payments. All funds deposited to the credit of the
9 pension liability redemption fund shall be held in a
10 separate account and all money belonging to the fund shall
11 be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the
12 pension liability redemption fund.

13 (b) On or before the first day of November of each year,
14 the department of administration shall certify to the
15 governor and the state treasurer and deliver to the speaker
16 of the House of Delegates and the president of the Senate
17 a certification as to the amount of pension liability
18 redemption payments to be appropriated for the next
19 fiscal year in order to pay in full when due all pension
20 liability redemption payments that will become due during
21 the next fiscal year. Such certification shall include the
22 amount and due date of each such pension liability
23 redemption payment. All moneys appropriated by the
24 Legislature in accordance with a certification made
25 pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the
26 pension liability redemption fund.

27 (c) The state treasurer shall pay to the trustee under the
28 trust indenture or agreement executed by the governor all
29 pension liability redemption payments as and when due.
30 Such payments shall be transferred by electronic funds
31 transfer, unless some other manner of funds transfer is
32 specified by the governor. No payments shall be required
33 for bonds that are defeased or bonds for which a deposit
34 sufficient to provide for all payments on the bonds has
35 been made.

36 (d) There shall be created within the pension liability
37 redemption fund a subaccount into which there shall be

38 deposited annually by the Legislature an amount not
39 greater than the aggregate amount certified by each
40 system's actuary to represent the difference between the
41 pension liability redemption payments and the annual
42 amortization payments on the unfunded actuarial accrued
43 liability that would have been due for such fiscal year had
44 the bonds issued pursuant to this article not been issued.
45 Upon resolution passed by the Legislature, the governor
46 shall use funds on deposit in the subaccount in the amount
47 and upon the terms specified in the resolution: (1) To
48 reduce any remaining unfunded actuarial accrued liability;
49 or (2) to provide for the early retirement of the bonds if
50 possible.

§12-8-9. Refunding bonds.

1 Subject to the provisions of the outstanding bonds issued
2 under this article and subject to the provisions of this
3 article, the governor shall have the power to refund any
4 outstanding bonds, whether the obligation refunded
5 represents principal or interest, in whole or in part, at any
6 time.

7 Refunding bonds shall mature at such time or times,
8 which shall not exceed the longest original term of the
9 bonds as issued, as the governor shall determine by
10 executive order issued by the governor, which executive
11 order shall be received by the secretary of state and filed
12 in the state register pursuant to section three, article two,
13 chapter twenty-nine-a of this code.

§12-8-10. State pledges and covenants.

1 (a) The state of West Virginia covenants and agrees with
2 the obligation holders, and the indenture shall so state,
3 that the bonds issued pursuant to this article are issued to
4 redeem a previous liability of the state and shall therefore
5 constitute a direct and general obligation of the state of
6 West Virginia; that the pension liability redemption

7 payments will be included in each budget along with all
8 other amounts for payment and discharge of the principal
9 of and interest on state debt; that the full faith and credit
10 of the state is hereby pledged to secure the payment of the
11 principal of and interest on the bonds; and that annual
12 state taxes shall be collected in an amount sufficient to
13 pay the pension liability redemption payments as they
14 become due and payable from the pension liability re-
15 demption fund.

16 (b) The state hereby pledges and covenants with the
17 obligation holders, and the indenture shall so state, that
18 the state will not limit or alter the rights, powers or duties
19 vested in any state official, or that state official's succes-
20 sors or assigns, and the obligation holders in a way that
21 will inhibit any state official, or that state official's
22 successors or assigns, from carrying out such state offi-
23 cial's rights, powers or duties under this article, nor limit
24 or alter the rights, powers or duties of any state official, or
25 that state official's successors or assigns, in any manner
26 which would jeopardize the interest of any obligation
27 holder, or inhibit or prevent performance or fulfillment by
28 any state official, or that state official's successors or
29 assigns, with respect to the terms of any agreement made
30 with any obligation holder pursuant to section six of this
31 article.

32 (c) The state hereby pledges and covenants with the
33 obligation holders, and the indenture shall so state, that,
34 while any of the bonds are outstanding, should any
35 increase of existing benefits or the creation of new benefits
36 under any of the pension systems, other than an increase
37 in benefits or new benefits effected by operation of law in
38 effect on the effective date of this article, cause any
39 additional unfunded actuarial accrued liability in any of
40 the pension systems (calculated in an actuarially sound
41 manner) during any fiscal year, such additional unfunded

42 actuarial accrued liability of that pension system will be
43 fully amortized over no more than the five consecutive
44 fiscal years following the date the increase in benefits or
45 new benefits become effective.

46 (d) The state hereby pledges and covenants with the
47 obligation holders, and the indenture shall so state, that,
48 while any of the bonds are outstanding, should any
49 additional unfunded actuarial accrued liability in any of
50 the pension systems (calculated in an actuarially sound
51 manner) occur during any fiscal year due to changes in
52 actuarial assumptions, changes in investment performance
53 or increases in benefits or additional benefits occurring by
54 operation of law in effect on the effective date of this
55 article, and such additional unfunded actuarial accrued
56 liability persists for a period of five consecutive fiscal
57 years, the governor shall submit to the Legislature a plan
58 to fund such additional unfunded actuarial accrued
59 liability over a reasonable period.

§12-8-11. Legal remedies of obligation holders.

1 Any obligation holder, except to the extent that the
2 rights given by this article may be restricted by the
3 executive order authorizing the issuance of the bonds or by
4 the trust indenture or agreement authorized in such
5 executive order, may by civil action, mandamus or other
6 proceeding, protect and enforce any rights granted under
7 the laws of this state, granted under this article, or granted
8 by the executive order or by the trust indenture or agree-
9 ment authorized in such executive order, and may enforce
10 and compel the performance of all duties required by this
11 article, by the executive order or by the trust indenture or
12 agreement authorized in such executive order.

§12-8-12. Nature of bonds; legal investments.

1 (a) The bonds issued under the provisions of this article
2 shall be and have all the qualities of negotiable instru-

3 ments under the uniform commercial code of this state and
4 shall not be invalid for any irregularity or defect in the
5 proceedings for the issuance thereof and shall be incon-
6 testable in the hands of bona fide purchasers or holders
7 thereof for value.

8 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, the
9 bonds issued pursuant to this article are securities in
10 which all public officers and bodies of this state, including
11 the investment management board, all municipalities and
12 other political subdivisions of this state, all insurance
13 companies and associations and other persons carrying on
14 an insurance business, including domestic for life and
15 domestic not for life insurance companies, all banks, trust
16 companies, societies for savings, building and loan associ-
17 ations, savings and loan associations, deposit guarantee
18 associations and investment companies, all administrators,
19 guardians, executors, trustees and other fiduciaries and all
20 other persons whatsoever who are authorized to invest in
21 bonds or other obligations of the state may properly and
22 legally invest funds, including capital, in their control or
23 belonging to them.

§12-8-13. Exemption from taxation.

1 All bonds issued under the provisions of this article and
2 the income therefrom shall be exempt from taxation by the
3 state of West Virginia, or by any county, school district or
4 municipality thereof, except inheritance, estate and
5 transfer taxes.

§12-8-14. Supersedeure.

1 It is the intent of the Legislature that in the event of any
2 conflict or inconsistency between the provisions of this
3 article and any other law, to the extent of the conflict or
4 inconsistency, the provisions of this article shall be
5 enforced and the provisions of the other law shall be of no
6 effect.

§12-8-15. Judicial determination.

1 No bonds shall be issued under this article until a
2 determination has been rendered by the supreme court of
3 appeals that the issuance of the bonds and the provisions
4 of this article are in compliance with the constitution of
5 West Virginia.

§12-8-16. Severability.

1 If any section, subsection, subdivision, subparagraph,
2 sentence or clause of this article is adjudged to be uncon-
3 stitutional or invalid, such adjudication shall not affect
4 the validity of the remaining portions of this article and,
5 to this end, the provisions of this article are hereby
6 declared to be severable.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Chairman Senate Committee

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect from passage.

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Clerk of the Senate

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Clerk of the House of Delegates

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
President of the Senate

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Speaker House of Delegates

The within..... *approved* this the *5th*
[Handwritten Signature]
Day of....., 2000
[Handwritten Signature]
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 3/23/17

Time 2:58 