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DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE BILL NO. 50

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS OF DELAWARE RELATING TO THE BOND AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE AND CERTAIN OF THEIR AUTHORITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

1 Section 1. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, Section 2 of the Laws of Delaware by making deletions as  
2 shown by strike throughs and insertions as shown by underlines as follows:

3 **Section 2. Authorization of Twenty-Year Bonds.** The State hereby authorizes the issuance of bonds, to which  
4 the State shall pledge its full faith and credit, such bonds to be issued in such principal amount as necessary to provide  
5 proceeds to the State in the amount of \$317,480,000 and in the amount of ~~\$90,357,205~~ \$115,354,405 local share of school  
6 bonds, at the discretion of the school district. Bonds authorized to be used by this Section shall mature not later than 20  
7 years from their date of issuance. The proceeds of such bonds, except for local share of school bonds, are hereby  
8 appropriated for a portion of the purposes set forth in Section 1 Addendum of this Act and summarized as follows:

9 Department, Agency or Instrumentality	Amount
10 Office of Management and Budget	\$125,808,600
11 Department of State	7,946,417
12 Department of Health and Social Services	4,750,000
13 Department of Agriculture	200,000
14 Delaware National Guard	791,875
15 Education	\$177,983,108

	Purpose	State Share	Maximum Local Share	Total Cost
17	Minor Capital Improvement and Equipment	\$18,176,150	\$8,648,415	\$26,824,565
18	Smyrna, Clayton Intermediate Addition (77/23)	11,769,900	5,324,700	17,094,600
19	Smyrna, New 600 Student E/S (77/23)	6,800,600	2,031,400	8,832,000
20	Smyrna, North Smyrna ES Addition/Renovation (77/23)	16,359,500	7,399,000	23,758,500
21	Appoquinimink, New MS and HS at Summit			
22	Campus (100% Local)		10,000,000	10,000,000
23	Red Clay, AI duPont MS Renovations (60/40)	349,322	232,882	582,204
24	Red Clay, Brandywine Springs School Renovations (60/40)	465,607	310,405	776,012
25	Red Clay, Dickinson HS Renovations (60/40)	668,677	445,785	1,114,462
26	Red Clay, Heritage ES Renovations (60/40)	3,418,310	2,278,873	5,697,183
27	Red Clay, Johnson ES Renovations (60/40)	309,447	206,298	515,745
28	Red Clay, Lewis ES Renovations (60/40)	440,718	293,812	734,530
29	Red Clay, McKean HS Renovations (60/40)	1,080,144	720,096	1,800,240
30	Red Clay, Mote ES Renovations (60/40)	622,760	415,173	1,037,933
31	Red Clay, Stanton MS Renovations (60/40)	805,449	536,965	1,342,414
32	Colonial, Eisenberg ES Renovations (60/40)	421,923	281,282	703,205
33	Colonial, Gunning Bedford MS Renovations (60/40)	653,191	435,461	1,088,652
34	<del>Colonial, William Penn HS Renovations (60/40)</del>	<del>3,105,242</del>	<del>2,070,162</del>	<del>5,175,404</del>
35	<u>Colonial, William Penn HS Renovations (60/40)</u>	<u>3,105,242</u>	<u>27,067,362</u>	<u>30,172,604</u>
36	NCCVT, Howard HS Stadium Planning and Design (60/40)		666,667	666,667
37	NCCVT, Paul M. Hodgson Replacement (62/38)	33,599,895	20,520,618	54,120,513
38	NCCVT, Paul M. Hodgson Vocational Technical			
39	High School Field House (100% Local)		3,599,138	3,599,138
40	Polytech, Polytech HS Roof Replacement (79/21)	2,499,224	664,351	3,163,575
41	Polytech, Polytech HS Walkway Enclosure (79/21)	453,873	120,650	574,523
42	Sussex Tech, New Sussex Tech HS (60/40)	34,236,300	22,824,216	57,060,516
43	Christina, Delaware School for the Deaf Renovations (100% State)	3,795,593		3,795,593

44	Colonial, New Leach School (100% State)	37,455,000		37,455,000
45	Red Clay, Meadowood School Extended Renovations (60/40)	337,453	224,969	562,422
46	Red Clay, Meadowood School Renovations (60/40)	158,830	105,887	264,717
47	<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>177,983,108</u>	<u>90,357,205</u>	<u>268,340,313</u>
48	<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>177,983,108</u>	<u>115,354,405</u>	<u>293,337,513</u>
49		<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$317,480,000</b>

50 Section 2. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, Section 63 of the Laws of Delaware by making deletions as  
51 shown by strike throughs and insertions as shown by underlines as follows:

52 **Section 63. Cultural Access Fund.** The Department of State is hereby authorized to use funds reserved in  
53 the Cultural Access Fund in order to help fund a matching grant program for capital projects and related programs  
54 that will enhance the quality of availability of Delaware’s recreational and cultural offerings. Funds disbursed as  
55 part of this matching grant program must be matched 2:1 to state funds. In the event the grant recipient does not  
56 have funds to support match requirement, the Department may submit a request to the Director of the Office of  
57 Management and Budget and the Controller General for approval to waive said requirement. Notwithstanding any  
58 other provision or law to the contrary, in order to disburse these grant funds, the Director of the Office of  
59 Management and Budget, upon concurrence from the Controller General and the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee  
60 on Capital Improvement, is authorized to transfer any necessary spending authority to the Department of State.

61 Section 3. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, Section 70 of the Laws of Delaware by making deletions as  
62 shown by strike throughs and insertions as shown by underlines as follows:

63 **Section 70. City of Dover and Downtown Dover Partnership.** The Section 1 Addendum of this Act  
64 appropriates funds to the City of Dover and Downtown Dover Partnership. Of this amount, ~~\$2,500,000~~ \$1,800,000  
65 shall be used for a water-sewer line project; ~~\$7,500,000~~ \$8,200,000 is allocated to the Downtown Dover Partnership  
66 to support community initiatives, including utility upgrades, redevelopment efforts, and/or building improvements;  
67 and \$420,000 shall be used to support the City of Dover Police Department in capital needs of the police training  
68 facility.

69 Section 4. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, Section 136 of the Laws of Delaware by making deletions as  
70 shown by strike throughs and insertions as shown by underlines as follows:

71 **Section 136. University of Delaware.** The Section 1 Addendum of this Act makes an appropriation to the  
 72 University of Delaware for Deferred Maintenance – ~~Laboratories~~ Campus Improvements. Of this amount,  
 73 \$4,000,000 shall be used toward the design and upgrade of the softball field.

74 Section 5. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, Section 154 of the Laws of Delaware by making deletions as  
 75 shown by strike throughs and insertions as shown by underlines as follows:

76 **Section 154. School Construction Market Pressure Contingency Fund.**

77 (a) School Construction Market Pressure Contingency Funds shall be allocated as follows:

78 District	79 Project	Maximum State Share	Maximum Local Share
80 Appoquinimink (76/24)	New Summit ES		\$698,950
81 Appoquinimink (76/24)	Redding MS		\$5,993,041
82 Cape Henlopen (60/40)	600 Student MS		\$4,789,226
83 Indian River (60/40)	New Sussex Central	\$9,000,000	\$6,000,000
84 Milford (74/26)	Milford Middle School	\$11,100,000	\$3,900,000
85 Smyrna (77/23)	New Elementary School	\$13,934,354	\$4,162,286
86 <u>Smyrna (77/23)</u>	<u>Roof Replacement</u>	<u>\$129,267</u>	<u>\$38,613</u>
87 New Castle Co. Vo-Tech (62/38)	Hodgson Replacement	\$5,036,128	\$27,298,116
88 Sussex Vo-Tech (60/40)	New Sussex Vo-Tech	\$42,938,675	\$28,625,783
89 Colonial (100% State)	New Leach School	\$3,742,241	
90 <b>Total</b>		<b><u>\$85,751,398</u></b>	<b><u>\$81,467,402</u></b>
91		<u>\$85,880,665</u>	<u>\$81,506,015</u>

92 (b) It is the intent that the School Construction Market Pressure Contingency Fund support the escalated construction  
 93 costs within the scope of each respective project’s Certificate of Necessity, as originally approved by the Department of  
 94 Education. Notwithstanding the provisions of Delaware Code to the contrary, the costs associated with any expansion of  
 95 scope beyond the approved Certificate of Necessity shall be considered a local obligation, unless otherwise approved by  
 96 the Secretary of Education, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and Controller General.

97 (c) Notwithstanding provisions to the contrary, appropriations for Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2024 School Construction  
 98 Market Pressure may be transferrable between fiscal years appropriations based on resource availability, as determined by  
 99 the Office of Management and Budget, to achieve the allocations set forth in this subsection.

100 Section 6. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, Section 155 of the Laws of Delaware by making deletions as  
101 shown by strike throughs and insertions as shown by underlines as follows:

102 **Section 155. School Safety and Security.** Section 1 Addendum of this Act makes an appropriation to the  
103 Department of Education for the Delaware School Safety and Security Fund. Of this amount, the Department shall provide  
104 a minimum amount of \$138,000 to the Department of Safety and Homeland Security, Delaware Emergency Management  
105 Agency, for school mapping, reporting application, and threat assessment tools. Of this amount, the Department shall  
106 further provide up to \$160,000 to the Department of Safety and Homeland Security, Delaware State Police, ~~Special~~  
107 Investigation State Bureau of Identification, for the Real-Time Crime Center application to enhance safety in and around  
108 schools.

109 Section 7. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, Section 162 of the Laws of Delaware by making deletions as shown  
110 by strike throughs and insertions as shown by underlines as follows:

111 **Section 162. Enhanced Minor Capital Improvements.**

112 ~~(e) In order to qualify for these funds, each reorganized school district and charter school shall obligate~~  
113 ~~appropriations from MCI funds for Fiscal Year 2025 and previous fiscal years before they may utilize the Enhanced~~  
114 ~~MCI funds described in this Section.~~

115 ~~(d)~~ (c) Each school district and charter school shall submit a report of capital improvements projects  
116 planned for expenditure of these funds to the Department of Education, the Office of Management and Budget, and  
117 the Controller General's Office by January 1, 2025.

118 ~~(e)~~ (d) Notwithstanding any provision or law to the contrary, effective July 1, 2024, reorganized school districts  
119 shall be authorized to assess a local match to provide up to a 60/40 state/local share for the Enhanced Minor Capital  
120 Improvements state amounts appropriated in subsection (a) of this section. This match is optional and must be used for the  
121 same purposes as state funds appropriated for Enhanced Minor Capital Improvements. A partial local match is authorized,  
122 provided the local share does not exceed 40 percent. A district may assess a match not to exceed a 60/40 state/local share  
123 all in one fiscal year or over multiple fiscal years. The match may only be provided through the original end date of the  
124 Enhanced Minor Capital Improvements appropriation and any continuations thereof.

125 Section 8. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, of the Laws of Delaware by adding a new Section 171 by  
126 making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

127 **Section 171. Legislative Hall Improvements.** The Office of Management and Budget, Division of

128 Facilities Management, is authorized to utilize any remaining funds from Legislative Hall major and minor capital  
129 improvement appropriations for the Legislative Hall Garage/Expansion project.

130 Section 9. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, of the Laws of Delaware by adding a new Section 172 by  
131 making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

132 **Section 172. Family Justice Center.** The Section 1 Addendum of Chapter 340, Volume 83 of the Laws of  
133 Delaware, appropriated \$225,000 for the Domestic Violence Coordinating Feasibility Study. Notwithstanding any  
134 provision to the contrary, the Office of Management and Budget is authorized to transfer any remaining funds from  
135 the Domestic Violence Coordinating Feasibility Study to the Criminal Justice Council for Family Justice Centers  
136 startup costs.

137 Section 10. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, of the Laws of Delaware by adding a new Section 173 by  
138 making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

139 **Section 173. Bethany Beach Training Site Barracks.** The Section 1 Addendum of this Act appropriates  
140 \$2,500,000 to the Delaware National Guard for the Scannell Readiness Center Expansion/Renovation.  
141 Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the Delaware National Guard is authorized to reallocate these funds  
142 and up to \$500,000 of available Minor Capital Improvements funding to cover the Bethany Beach Training Site  
143 Barracks project.

144 Section 11. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, of the Laws of Delaware by adding a new Section 174 by  
145 making deletions as shown by strike-through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

146 **Section 174. William Henry Middle School Projects.** Notwithstanding any provision of Delaware Code  
147 or regulations to the contrary, and with the concurrence of the school board, the Capital School District is authorized  
148 to use funds appropriated for Certificate of Necessity (CN) # 2113A for the design, renovations, and additions to the  
149 former William Henry Middle School to support new facilities for the Kent County Community School and Kent  
150 County Secondary ILC. The Capital School District shall submit a request for a new CN to the Department of  
151 Education for the Renovations and Additions to William Henry Middle School. The new CN shall accurately reflect  
152 the new scope and cost of the project. The Department of Education may approve this CN if adequate funds are  
153 available.

154 Section 12. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, of the Laws of Delaware by adding a new Section 175 by  
155 making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

156            **Section 175. Community Transportation Funds.** Notwithstanding any provision of 29 Del. C. to the contrary,  
157 the Department of Transportation is hereby authorized to use Community Transportation Funds for a one-time  
158 reimbursement to each of the following:

- 159            (1) Bethel AME Church in an amount of up to \$23,780 for a double-sided illuminated sign.
- 160            (2) Blades Economic Development Corp. (BEDCO) in an amount of up to \$29,000 to obtain a topographic  
161            and bathymetric survey of the Blades Marina basin & area immediately surrounding the marina.
- 162            (3) CHILD Inc. in an amount of up to \$7,500 for a drainage repair.
- 163            (4) City of Dover in an amount of up to \$295,000 for road and sidewalk improvements on Route 8.
- 164            (5) Ellendale Volunteer Fire Company in an amount of up to \$63,100 for a command vehicle.
- 165            (6) Legacy at Odessa National in an amount of up to \$50,000 for a paving project.
- 166            (7) McCaulley Court Maintenance Corporation in an amount of up to \$25,000 to complete common area  
167            landscaping.
- 168            (8) Rehoboth Beach Fire Company in an amount of up to \$25,000 for an all-terrain vehicle.
- 169            (9) Smyrna-Clayton Little League in an amount of up to \$165,000 for a parking lot project.
- 170            (10) Smyrna Clayton Moose Lodge in an amount of up to \$30,350 for an LED sign.
- 171            (11) Town of Georgetown in an amount of up to \$5,750 for the Cinderberry mailbox cluster relocation.
- 172            (12) Triangle Neighborhood Association in an amount of up to \$1,700 for the placement and installation of  
173            signage.
- 174            (13) Wilmington Skating Club in an amount of up to \$20,000 for a drainage project.

175            Section 13. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, of the Laws of Delaware by adding a new Section 176 by  
176 making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

177            **Section 176. Community Reinvestment Fund.** The Section 1 Addendum of 83 Del. Laws c. 56  
178 appropriated funding to the Community Redevelopment/Reinvestment Fund to assist community organizations with  
179 capital infrastructure projects. Of these projects, \$250,000 shall be reallocated from Downtown Milford, Inc. to the  
180 Delaware State Fair to complete the Grove Restroom and Shower Facility project, \$69,645 shall be reallocated to the  
181 Milford District Free Public Library Commission for updating and refurbishment of the Milford Public Library,  
182 \$100,000 shall be reallocated to Kent Sussex Industries for capital improvements to the Skill Development Center,

183 and \$125,000 shall be reallocated to the Milford Historical Society for Parson Thorne Mansion Capital Improvement  
184 Projects.

185 Section 14. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84, of the Laws of Delaware by adding a new Section 177 by  
186 making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

187 **Section 177. Troop 7 Adaptive Reuse Study.** The Director of the Office of Management and Budget is  
188 authorized to perform an adaptive reuse study for the Delaware State Police Troop 7 located at 18006 Coastal Highway,  
189 Lewes, DE (the “facility”). The objectives of the study are:

190 (a) To provide options for the potential adaptive reuse of the facility to include, but not limited to, locating  
191 existing state operations to this facility (e.g., JP Court) or locating new social services to the eastern Sussex  
192 County region; and

193 (b) To consider the potential capital costs and operating costs of each option.

194 The Office of Management and Budget shall provide for an open process whereby the views and ideas of  
195 the public are considered. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall provide a copy of the study to  
196 the Controller General and Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Capital Improvement no later than May 1, 2025.

197 Section 15. Amend Chapter 297, Volume 84 of the Laws of Delaware by adding a new Section 178 by  
198 making deletions as shown by strike through and insertions as shown by underline as follows:

199 **Section 178. Sussex County.** Amend § 6961, Title 9 of the Delaware Code by making insertions as  
200 shown by underline as follows:

201 § 6961. Information from state and local agencies and school districts.

202 (d) This section shall only apply to residential development and only upon an action by Sussex County  
203 Council adopting this ~~section by December 31, 2024.~~ section. Prior to recording a major record subdivision plan, as  
204 defined by Sussex County, Sussex County may require that the applicant provide certification from the Secretary of  
205 the Department of Education after consultation with the superintendent of the appropriate individual school district  
206 that the school district has adequate capacity for the proposed development.

207 (1) If so requested, the Secretary shall respond to any request for certification or voluntary school  
208 assessments within 60-days’ receipt of a completed request for such certification. That certification shall  
209 include the following information:



210 a. Existing classrooms and service levels based upon the Delaware Department of Education Delaware  
211 School Construction Manual, September 19, 1996, as may be amended or supplemented from time to  
212 time, or based upon other standards accepted as current by the Secretary of the Department of Education.  
213 b. Capacity calculations, which shall include the current student population, increased demand resulting  
214 from prior certifications from the Department of Education, and the increased demand that will result  
215 from the proposed development. The County shall within 20 days provide the Department of Education  
216 with all necessary information regarding the number and type of dwelling units proposed and other  
217 information which the Secretary may request.

#### SYNOPSIS

This Act amends the Fiscal Year 2025 Bond and Capital Improvements Act to (1) authorize local bond shares to adjust for William Penn High School in the Colonial School District. Further, this Act amends Fiscal Year 2025 Bond and Capital Improvements Act to (2) authorize the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, with concurrence of the Controller General and the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Capital, to transfer any necessary spending authority from the Cultural Access Fund; (3) revise allocations to the City of Dover and Downtown Dover Partnership; (4) revise the allocation for the University of Delaware for Deferred Maintenance from Laboratories to Campus Improvements; (5) revise the State and Local share allocations for the Smyrna Roof Replacement project and authorizes School Construction Market Pressure to be transferrable between Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 to achieve allocations; (6) adjust School Safety and Security funding from the Department of Safety and Homeland Security, Delaware State Police, Special Investigation to reflect State Bureau of Identification; (7) removes the requirement of school districts and charter schools to obligate prior fiscal year MCI funds prior to utilizing Enhanced MCI; (8) authorize the transfer of any remaining funds from Legislative Hall major and minor capital improvement appropriations to be used for the Legislative Hall Garage/Expansion project; (9) authorize the transfer of any remaining funds from the Domestic Violence Coordinating Feasibility Study to the Criminal Justice Council for Family Justice Center startup costs; (10) authorizes the transfer of funds allocated for the Scannell Readiness Center and up to \$500,000 of available Minor Capital Improvements to cover the project for the Bethany Beach Training Barracks; (11) authorizes funds from Capital School District's Certificate of Necessity (CN 2113A) to be used to support new facilities for the Kent County Community School and Kent County Secondary ILC; (12) authorize the Department of Transportation to use Community Transportation Funds for one-time reimbursements for various projects; (13) reprograms funding from the Community Redevelopment/Reinvestment Fund from Downtown Milford, Inc. to the Delaware State Fair, the Milford District Fee Public Library Commission, and Kent Sussex Industries; (14) authorize the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to perform an adaptive reuse study for the Delaware State Police Troop 7; and (15) remove the deadline date requiring Sussex County Council to adopt § 6961, Title 9 of the Delaware Code.

AUTHOR: Joint Committee on Capital Improvement