

By Mr. Scibelli of Springfield, petition of Anthony M. Scibelli for legislation to authorize the Secretary of the Executive Office for Administration and Finance to grant certain funds to the city of Springfield for rehabilitation and expansion of the civic center of said city. State Administration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Seven.

AN ACT TO ASSIST THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD IN THE REHABILITATION AND EXPANSION OF THE SPRINGFIELD CIVIC CENTER.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. For the purpose of improving the economic
2 development climate of the greater Springfield area, to generate
3 increased tourist and convention visitors and revenue for the com-
4 monwealth, to upgrade the quality of entertainment in the western
5 Massachusetts market, to increase the competitiveness of the
6 Springfield Civic Center with civic centers and convention facili-
7 ties in neighboring states, the secretary of administration and
8 finance, hereinafter referred to as "the secretary", is hereby autho-
9 rized to make grants to the city of Springfield, in a total amount
10 not to exceed thirty-two million dollars to acquire land, including
11 buildings thereon and construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, finish,
12 or expand existing facilities at the Springfield Civic Center, here-
13 inafter referred to as "the project", to create additional convention
14 destination facilities, increase the number of seats in the arena,
15 office buildings and such other suitable and necessary facilities to
16 be constructed with substantial private capital, which facilities
17 may be leased or sold to private developers upon approval by the
18 said secretary, after determination that such sale or lease is in the
19 public interest.

20 Such funds shall be granted by the secretary in one or more
21 grants upon his approval of grant applications submitted by the

22 city of Springfield containing any information concerning the pro-
23 ject that the secretary may require. Said grants in total shall not
24 exceed eighty percent of the total cost of the project.

1 SECTION 2. The secretary shall not grant any funds pursuant
2 to section one of this act, and the city shall not expend any grant
3 funds, other than for the preparation of programs, feasibility
4 studies, surveys, soil tests, or cost estimates, until the city has
5 completed a study and program for the project. Said study and
6 program shall include an estimate of the operating costs of the
7 project for the first five years of operation and the sources of rev-
8 enue to meet such costs. No provider of design services shall be
9 selected, nor shall any design services be performed, unless and
10 until said study and program have been completed and certified as
11 follows: (1) the city shall certify to the deputy commissioner of
12 capital planning and operations that the study and program corre-
13 spond to the needs of the project; and (2) the deputy commis-
14 sioner of capital planning and operations shall certify to the
15 secretary that the study and program reflect said needs, that the
16 study and program provide an accurate estimate of the project
17 requirements, costs, and schedule, and that the project can be
18 accomplished within the proposed cost for such project specified
19 in the grant application and without substantial deviation from the
20 study and program.

21 The secretary shall not grant any funds pursuant to this act and
22 the city shall not expend any grant funds, for the construction of
23 the project unless the deputy commissioner certifies that the con-
24 struction work can be accomplished within the proposed cost for
25 such project specified in the grant application and without sub-
26 stantial deviation from the study and the program.

1 SECTION 3. The city may by vote of the city council and with
2 the approval of the mayor, delegate to the government land bank
3 established by chapter two hundred and twelve of the acts of nine-
4 teen hundred and seventy-five the authority to act on its behalf in
5 connection with the project, whereupon said government land
6 bank shall have and may exercise all of the powers which the city
7 could have exercised directly in connection with the project.

1 SECTION 4. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying
2 out the provisions of section one of this act, the state treasurer
3 shall, upon the request of the secretary of administration, with the
4 approval of the governor, issue and sell at public or private sale,
5 bonds or notes of the commonwealth, registered or with interest
6 coupons attached, as he may deem best, to an amount specified by
7 the governor from time to time but not exceeding, in the aggre-
8 gate, thirty-two million dollars. All bonds or notes issued by the
9 commonwealth as aforesaid shall be designated on their face with
10 the words, Springfield Civic Center Loan, Act of 1993, and shall
11 be on the serial payment plan for such maximum term of years,
12 not exceeding twenty years as the governor may recommend to
13 the general court pursuant to Section 3 of Article LXII of the
14 Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, the matu-
15 rities thereof to be so arranged that the amounts payable in the
16 several years of the period of amortization, other than the final
17 year, shall be as nearly equal as in the opinion of the state trea-
18 surer it is practicable to make them. Said bonds or notes shall bear
19 interest semi-annually at such rate as the state treasurer, with the
20 approval of the governor, shall fix. The initial maturities of such
21 bonds or notes shall be payable not later than one year from the
22 date of issue thereof. Bonds and interest thereon issued under the
23 authority of this section shall, notwithstanding any other provi-
24 sions of this act, be general obligations of the commonwealth. All
25 revenues from whatever source derived by the said Springfield
26 Civic Center shall be paid into a separate fund to be established
27 upon the books of the commonwealth in the office of the state
28 treasurer. The state treasurer shall receive, deposit, and use the
29 proceeds of said fund only for the purpose of redeeming the bonds
30 and notes issued pursuant to this section and defray such other
31 necessary expenses incurred in the operation of the facility.

1 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

The following information is being provided for your information. It is intended to provide you with a general overview of the project and to help you understand the scope and objectives of the work. The information is based on the current state of the project and is subject to change as the project progresses.

The project is a multi-phase study that will be conducted over a period of 18 months. The first phase, which is currently underway, involves the collection and analysis of data from a series of experiments. The second phase will involve the development of a theoretical model that can be used to predict the results of the experiments. The third phase will involve the validation of the model against the experimental data.

The project is being funded by the National Science Foundation and the Office of Naval Research. The principal investigator is Dr. John Doe, who is currently at the University of Toronto. The project is being conducted in collaboration with the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Michigan.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the project, please contact Dr. John Doe at the University of Toronto. His contact information is as follows:

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We appreciate your interest in the project and hope that you will find this information helpful.