HOUSE BILL No. 5823

April 9, 2002, Introduced by Rep. Bisbee and referred to the Committee on Tax Policy.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending section 4302 (MCL 324.4302).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 4302. The waterworks system, intercepting sewers,
- 2 pumping stations, sewage disposal plant and system, transfer sta-
- 3 tion, and garbage and refuse processing or disposal plant and
- 4 system, are public utilities within the meaning of any constitu-
- 5 tional or statutory provisions for the purpose of acquiring, pur-
- 6 chasing, owning, operating, constructing, equipping, and main-
- 7 taining the waterworks system, intercepting sewers, pumping sta-
- 8 tions, sewage disposal plant and system, transfer station, and
- 9 garbage and refuse processing or disposal plant and system. A
- 10 local unit of government may issue FULL faith and credit bonds or
- 11 mortgage bonds for the purposes described in this part beyond the

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- 1 general limits of the bonded indebtedness prescribed by law
- 2 except as provided in this section. The mortgage bonds as pro-
- 3 vided in this section shall not impose any general liability upon
- 4 the local unit of government but shall be secured only on the
- 5 property and revenues of the utility as provided in this section,
- 6 including a franchise, stating the terms upon which the purchaser
- 7 may operate the utility in case of foreclosure. The franchise
- 8 shall not extend for a longer period than 20 years from the date
- 9 of the sale on foreclosure. The mortgage bonds shall be sold
- 10 for not less than par, bear interest at a rate not to exceed the
- 11 maximum rate permitted by the municipal finance act, Act No. 202
- 12 of the Public Acts of 1943, being sections 131.1 to 139.3 of the
- 13 Michigan Compiled Laws, and the total amount OF MORTGAGE BONDS
- 14 shall not exceed 60% of the original cost of the utility except
- 15 as provided in this section. Bonds shall not be issued as gen-
- 16 eral obligations of the local unit of government except upon a
- 17 3/5 affirmative vote of the qualified electors of the local unit
- 18 of government and except as provided in this section, not in
- 19 excess of 3% of the assessed valuation of the real and personal
- 20 property of the local unit of government as shown by the last
- 21 preceding tax roll. Bonds shall not be issued as FULL faith and
- 22 credit bonds or mortgage bonds of the utility except upon a 3/5
- 23 affirmative vote of the legislative body of the local unit of
- 24 government. BONDS ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION ARE SUBJECT TO THE
- 25 REVENUE BOND ACT OF 1933, 1933 PA 94, MCL 141.101 TO 141.140.