

2016 -- S 2962

LC005821

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

A N A C T

AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PAWTUCKET TO ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$24,000,000  
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF  
INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT,  
ALTERATION, REPAIR, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL  
FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY, TO FUND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM FOR THE TWO FISCAL YEARS 2018 AND 2019

Introduced By: Senators Doyle, Conley, Nesselbush, and Pearson

Date Introduced: May 10, 2016

Referred To: Senate Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. The city of Pawtucket is hereby authorized, in addition to authority  
2 previously granted, to issue bonds and other evidences of indebtedness (hereinafter "bonds") up  
3 to an amount not exceeding twenty-four million dollars (\$24,000,000) from time to time under its  
4 corporate name and seal or a facsimile of such. The bonds of each issue may be issued in the form  
5 of serial bonds or term bonds or a combination thereof and shall be payable either by maturity of  
6 principal in the case of serial bonds or by mandatory sinking fund installments in the case of term  
7 bonds, in annual installments of principal, the first installment to be not later than three (3) years  
8 and the last installment not later than thirty (30) years after the date of the bonds.

9           SECTION 2. The bonds shall be signed by the city treasurer and by the manual or  
10 facsimile signature of the mayor and be issued and sold in such amounts as the city council may  
11 determine by resolution. The manner of sale, denominations, maturities, interest rates and other  
12 terms, conditions and details of any bonds or notes issued under this act may be fixed by the  
13 proceedings of the city council authorizing the issue or by separate resolution of the city council  
14 or, to the extent provisions for these matters are not so made, they may be fixed by the officers  
15 authorized to sign the bonds or notes. The proceeds derived from the sale of the bonds shall be  
16 delivered to the city treasurer, and such proceeds exclusive of premiums and accrued interest

1 shall be expended: (1) For the construction, renovation, improvement, alteration, repair,  
2 furnishing and equipping of schools and school facilities throughout the city of Pawtucket and all  
3 costs related thereto (the "projects"); (2) In payment of the principal of or interest on temporary  
4 notes issued under section 3; (3) In repayment of advances under section 4; (4) In payment of  
5 related costs of issuance of any bonds or notes; and/or (5) In payment of capitalized interest  
6 during construction of the projects. No purchaser of any bonds or notes under this act shall be in  
7 any way responsible for the proper application of the proceeds derived from the sale thereof. The  
8 proceeds of bonds or notes issued under this act, any applicable federal or state assistance and the  
9 other monies referred to in sections 6 and 9 shall be deemed appropriated for the purposes of this  
10 act without further action than that required by this act.

11       SECTION 3. The city council may by resolution authorize the issuance from time to time  
12 of interest bearing or discounted notes in anticipation of the issue of bonds under section 2 or in  
13 anticipation of the receipt of federal or state aid for the purposes of this act. The amount of  
14 original notes issued in anticipation of bonds may not exceed the amount of bonds which may be  
15 issued under this act and the amount of original notes issued in anticipation of federal or state aid  
16 may not exceed the amount of available federal or state aid as estimated by the city treasurer.  
17 Temporary notes issued hereunder shall be signed by the manual or facsimile signatures of the  
18 city treasurer and the mayor and shall be payable within five (5) years from their respective dates,  
19 but the principal of and interest on notes issued for a shorter period may be renewed or paid from  
20 time to time by the issue of other notes hereunder, provided the period from the date of an  
21 original note to the maturity of any note issued to renew or pay the same debt or the interest  
22 thereon shall not exceed five (5) years. Any temporary notes in anticipation of bonds issued under  
23 this section may be refunded prior to the maturity of the notes by the issuance of additional  
24 temporary notes, provided that no such refunding shall result in any amount of such temporary  
25 notes outstanding at any one time in excess of two hundred percent (200%) of the amount of  
26 bonds which may be issued under this act, and provided further that if the issuance of any such  
27 refunding notes results in any amount of such temporary notes outstanding at any one time in  
28 excess of the amount of bonds which may be issued under this act, the proceeds of such refunding  
29 notes shall be deposited in a separate fund established with the bank which is paying agent for the  
30 notes being refunded. Pending their use to pay the notes being refunded, monies in the fund shall  
31 be invested for the benefit of the city by the paying agent at the direction of the city treasurer in  
32 any investment permitted under section 5. The monies in the fund and any investments held as a  
33 part of the fund shall be held in trust and shall be applied by the paying agent solely to the  
34 payment or prepayment of the principal of and interest on the notes being refunded. Upon

1 payment of all principal of and interest on the notes, any excess monies in the fund shall be  
2 distributed to the city. The city may pay the principal of and interest on notes in full from other  
3 than the issuance of refunding notes prior to the issuance of bonds pursuant to section 1 hereof. In  
4 such case, the city's authority to issue bonds or notes in anticipation of bonds under this act shall  
5 continue provided that: (1) The city council passes a resolution evidencing the city's intent to pay  
6 off the notes without extinguishing the authority to issue bonds or notes; and (2) That the period  
7 from the date of an original note to the maturity date of any other note shall not exceed five (5)  
8 years. Section 5-106 of the city charter shall not apply to the issue of notes in anticipation of  
9 bonds.

10 SECTION 4. Pending any authorization or issue of bonds hereunder or pending or in lieu  
11 of any authorization or issue of notes hereunder, the city treasurer, with the approval of the city  
12 council may, to the extent that bonds or notes may be issued hereunder, apply funds in the general  
13 treasury of the city to the purposes specified in section 2, such advances to be repaid without  
14 interest from the proceeds of bonds or notes subsequently issued or from the proceeds of  
15 applicable federal or state assistance or from other available funds.

16 SECTION 5. Any proceeds of bonds or notes issued hereunder or of any applicable  
17 federal or state assistance, pending their expenditure may be deposited or invested by the city  
18 treasurer, in demand deposits, time deposits or savings deposits in banks which are members of  
19 the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or in obligations issued or guaranteed by the United  
20 States of America or by any agency or instrumentality thereof or as may be provided in any other  
21 applicable law of the state of Rhode Island or resolution of the city council or pursuant to an  
22 investment policy of the city.

23 SECTION 6. Any accrued interest received upon the sale of bonds or notes hereunder  
24 shall be applied to the payment of the first interest due thereon. Any premiums arising from the  
25 sale of bonds or notes hereunder and, to the extent permitted by applicable federal laws, any net  
26 earnings or profits realized from the deposit or investment of funds hereunder shall, in the  
27 discretion of the city treasurer, be applied to the cost of preparing, issuing, and marketing bonds  
28 or notes hereunder to the extent not otherwise provided, to the payment of the cost of the projects,  
29 to the payment of the principal of or interest on bonds or notes issued hereunder, to the revenues  
30 of the city and dealt with as part of the revenues of the city from property taxes to the extent  
31 permitted by federal law, or to any one or more of the foregoing. The cost of preparing, issuing,  
32 and marketing bonds or notes hereunder may also, in the discretion of the city treasurer, be met  
33 from bond or note proceeds exclusive of premium and accrued interest or from other monies  
34 available therefor. Any balance of bond or note proceeds remaining after payment of the cost of

1 the projects and the cost of preparing, issuing and marketing bonds or notes hereunder shall be  
2 applied to the payment of the principal of or interest on bonds or notes issued hereunder. To the  
3 extent permitted by applicable federal laws, any earnings or net profit realized from the deposit or  
4 investment of funds hereunder may, upon receipt, be added to and dealt with as part of the  
5 revenues of the city from property taxes. In exercising any discretion under this section, the city  
6 treasurer shall be governed by any instructions adopted by resolution of the city council. Any  
7 balance of bond or note proceeds remaining after completion of the projects shall be subject to  
8 section 5-109 of the city charter.

9       SECTION 7. All bonds and notes issued under this act and the debt evidenced hereby  
10 shall be obligatory on the city in the same manner and to the same extent as other debts lawfully  
11 contracted by it and shall be excepted from the operation of §45-12-2 of the general laws and any  
12 provision of the city charter. No such obligation shall at any time be included in the debt of the  
13 city for the purpose of ascertaining its borrowing capacity. The city shall annually appropriate a  
14 sum sufficient to pay the principal and interest coming due within the year on bonds and notes  
15 issued hereunder to the extent that monies therefor are not otherwise provided. If such sum is not  
16 appropriated, it shall nevertheless be added to the annual tax levy. In order to provide such sum in  
17 each year and notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, all taxable property in the  
18 city shall be subject to ad valorem taxation by the city without limitation as to rate or amount.

19       SECTION 8. Any bonds or notes issued under the provisions of this act, if properly  
20 executed by the officers of the city in office on the date of execution, shall be valid and binding  
21 according to their terms notwithstanding that before the delivery thereof and payment therefor  
22 any or all of such officers shall for any reason have ceased to hold office.

23       SECTION 9. The city, acting by resolution of its city council is authorized to apply for,  
24 contract for and expend any federal or state advances or other grants of assistance which may be  
25 available for the purposes of this act, and any such expenditures may be in addition to other  
26 monies provided in this act. To the extent of any inconsistency between any law of this state and  
27 any applicable federal law or regulation, the latter shall prevail. Federal and state advances, with  
28 interest where applicable, whether contracted for prior to or after the effective date of this act,  
29 may be repaid as a cost of the projects under section 2.

30       SECTION 10. Bonds and notes may be issued under this act without obtaining the  
31 approval of any governmental agency or the taking of any proceedings or the happening of any  
32 conditions except as specifically required by this act for such issue. In carrying out any project  
33 financed in whole or in part under this act, including where applicable the condemnation of any  
34 land or interest in land, and in the levy and collection of assessments or other charges permitted

1 by law on account of any such project, all action shall be taken which is necessary to meet  
2 constitutional requirements whether or not such action is otherwise required by statute, but the  
3 validity of bonds and notes issued hereunder shall in no way depend upon the validity or  
4 occurrence of such action. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the validity of bonds  
5 and notes issued hereunder shall in no way be affected by section 2-308 of the city charter and  
6 section 4-1602 of the city code of ordinances, and the purposes of this act shall be deemed to  
7 constitute a single project under article V of the city charter.

8 SECTION 11. The city treasurer and the mayor, on behalf of the city are hereby  
9 authorized to execute such instruments, documents or other papers as either of the foregoing  
10 deem necessary or desirable to carry out the intent of this act and are also authorized to take all  
11 actions and execute all documents necessary to comply with federal tax and securities laws,  
12 which documents or agreements may have a term coextensive with the maturity of the bonds  
13 authorized hereby, including Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the  
14 Rule) and to execute and deliver a continuing disclosure agreement or certificate in connection  
15 with the bonds or notes in the form as shall be deemed advisable by such officers in order to  
16 comply with the Rule.

17 SECTION 12. All or any portion of the authorized but unissued authority to issue bonds  
18 and notes under this act may be extinguished by resolution of the city council, without further  
19 action by the general assembly, seven (7) years after the effective date of this act.

20 SECTION 13. The question of the approval of this act shall be submitted to the electors  
21 of the city at the next general election but if a special city-wide election or special state election,  
22 in either case other than a primary, is called for a date earlier than the date of such general  
23 election, the mayor may direct that the question of the approval of this act be submitted at such  
24 special election. The question shall be submitted in substantially the following form: "Shall an act  
25 passed at the 2016 session of the general assembly entitled 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE  
26 CITY OF PAWTUCKET TO ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$24,000,000 GENERAL  
27 OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO  
28 FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION,  
29 REPAIR, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES  
30 THROUGHOUT THE CITY, TO FUND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR  
31 THE TWO FISCAL YEARS 2018 AND 2019' be approved?" and the warning for the election  
32 shall contain the question to be submitted. From the time the election is warned and until it is  
33 held, it shall be the duty of the city clerk to keep a copy of the act available at the clerk's office  
34 for public inspection, but the validity of the election shall not be affected by this requirement. To

1 the extent of any inconsistency between this act and the city charter or any law of special  
2 applicability to the city, this act shall prevail.

3 SECTION 14. This act shall constitute an enabling act of the general assembly that is  
4 required pursuant to §16-7-44 of the general laws. Any bonds, notes or other evidences of  
5 indebtedness issued under this act for school projects shall not be eligible for state aid  
6 reimbursement pursuant to §16-7-44 of the general laws unless the school projects described  
7 herein have been approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education ("RIDE").

8 SECTION 15. Sections 13 and 15 shall take effect upon the passage of this act. The  
9 remainder of this act shall take effect upon the approval of this act by a majority of those voting  
10 on the question at the election prescribed by section 13.

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EXPLANATION

OF

A N A C T

AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PAWTUCKET TO ISSUE NOT MORE THAN \$24,000,000  
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF  
INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT,  
ALTERATION, REPAIR, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL  
FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY, TO FUND THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT  
PROGRAM FOR THE TWO FISCAL YEARS 2018 AND 2019

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1           This act authorizes the city of Pawtucket to issue not more than \$24,000,000 general  
2   obligation bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness to finance the construction,  
3   renovation, improvement, alteration, repair, furnishing and equipping of schools and school  
4   facilities throughout the city of Pawtucket and all costs related thereto.

5           This act would constitute an enabling act of the general assembly that is required  
6   pursuant to §16-7-44 of the general laws. Any bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness  
7   issued under this act for school projects shall not be eligible for state aid reimbursement pursuant  
8   to §16-7-44 of the general laws unless the school projects described herein have been approved  
9   by the Rhode Island Department of Education ("RIDE").

10          Sections 13 and 15 would take effect upon passage. The remainder of the act would take  
11   effect upon approval of the question provided for in section 13.

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