

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act
5 is amended by changing Sections 9.6a and 56 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 2605/9.6a) (from Ch. 42, par. 328.6a)

7 Sec. 9.6a. Bonds for sewage treatment, ~~and~~ water quality,
8 and facility improvements. The corporate authorities of a
9 sanitary district, in order to provide funds required for the
10 replacing, remodeling, completing, altering, constructing and
11 enlarging of sewage treatment works, administrative buildings,
12 water quality improvement projects, renewable energy or flood
13 control facilities, and additions therefor, pumping stations,
14 tunnels, conduits, intercepting sewers and outlet sewers,
15 together with the equipment, including air pollution
16 equipment, and appurtenances thereto, to acquire property,
17 real, personal or mixed, necessary for said purposes, for
18 costs and expenses for the acquisition of the sites and
19 rights-of-way necessary thereto, and for engineering expenses
20 for designing and supervising the construction of such works,
21 may issue on or before December 31, 2034, in addition to all
22 other obligations heretofore or herein authorized, bonds,
23 notes or other evidences of indebtedness for such purposes in

1 an aggregate amount at any one time outstanding not to exceed
2 3.35% of the equalized assessed valuation of all taxable
3 property within the sanitary district, to be ascertained by
4 the last assessment for State and local taxes previous to the
5 issuance of any such obligations. Such obligations shall be
6 issued without submitting the question of such issuance to the
7 legal voters of such sanitary district for approval.

8 The corporate authorities may sell such obligations at
9 private or public sale and enter into any contract or
10 agreement necessary, appropriate or incidental to the exercise
11 of the powers granted by this Act, including, without
12 limitation, contracts or agreements for the sale and purchase
13 of such obligations and the payment of costs and expenses
14 incident thereto. The corporate authorities may pay such costs
15 and expenses, in whole or in part, from the corporate fund.

16 Such obligations shall be issued from time to time only in
17 amounts as may be required for such purposes but the amount of
18 such obligations issued during any one budget year shall not
19 exceed \$150,000,000 plus the amount of any obligations
20 authorized by this Act to be issued during the 3 budget years
21 next preceding the year of issuance but which were not issued,
22 provided, however, that this limitation shall not be
23 applicable (i) to the issuance of obligations to refund bonds,
24 notes or other evidences of indebtedness, (ii) to obligations
25 issued to provide for the repayment of money received from the
26 Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund for the construction or

1 repair of wastewater treatment works, and (iii) to obligations
2 issued as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
3 of 2009, issued prior to January 1, 2011, that are commonly
4 known as "Build America Bonds" as authorized by Section 54AA
5 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Each
6 ordinance authorizing the issuance of the obligations shall
7 state the general purpose or purposes for which they are to be
8 issued, and the corporate authorities may at any time
9 thereafter pass supplemental appropriations ordinances
10 appropriating the proceeds from the sale of such obligations
11 for such purposes.

12 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Section 9.6 or
13 this Section, and in addition to any other amount of bonds
14 authorized to be issued under this Act, the corporate
15 authorities are authorized to issue from time to time bonds of
16 the district in a principal amount not to exceed \$600,000,000
17 for the purpose of making contributions to the pension fund
18 established under Article 13 of the Illinois Pension Code
19 without submitting the question of issuing bonds to the voters
20 of the District. Any bond issuances under this paragraph are
21 intended to decrease the unfunded liability of the pension
22 fund and shall not decrease the amount of the employer
23 contributions required in any given year under Section 13-503
24 of the Illinois Pension Code.

25 The corporate authorities may issue bonds, notes or other
26 evidences of indebtedness in an amount necessary to provide

1 funds to refund outstanding obligations issued pursuant to
2 this Section, including interest accrued or to accrue thereon.

3 (Source: P.A. 101-302, eff. 1-1-20; 102-707, eff. 4-22-22.)

4 (70 ILCS 2605/56)

5 Sec. 56. Resource recovery.

6 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

7 (1) technological advancements in wastewater treatment
8 have resulted in the ability to capture recovered
9 resources and produce renewable energy resources from
10 material previously discarded;

11 (2) the capture and beneficial reuse of recovered
12 resources and the production of renewable energy resources
13 serves a wide variety of environmental benefits including,
14 but not limited to, improved water quality, reduction of
15 greenhouse gases, reduction of carbon footprint, reduction
16 of landfill usage, reduced usage of hydrocarbon-based
17 fuels, return of nutrients to the food cycle, and reduced
18 water consumption;

19 (3) the district is a leader in the field of
20 wastewater treatment and possesses the expertise and
21 experience necessary to capture and beneficially reuse or
22 prepare for beneficial reuse recovered resources,
23 including renewable energy resources; and

24 (4) the district has the opportunity and ability to
25 change the approach to wastewater treatment from that of a

1 waste material to be disposed of to one of a collection of
2 resources to be recovered, reused, and sold, with the
3 opportunity to provide the district with additional
4 sources of revenue and reduce operating costs.

5 (b) As used in this Section:

6 "Recovered resources" means any material produced by or
7 extracted from (i) the operation of district facilities or
8 (ii) the use of district-owned real estate. "Recovered
9 resources" includes, without limitation, ~~including, but not~~
10 ~~limited to:~~

11 (1) solids, including solids from the digestion
12 process, semi-solids, or liquid materials;

13 (2) gases, including biogas, carbon dioxide, and
14 methane;

15 (3) nutrients;

16 (4) algae;

17 (5) treated effluent; ~~and~~

18 (6) thermal energy or hydropower; ~~and~~

19 (7) solar or wind energy.

20 "Renewable energy facility" shall have the same meaning as
21 a facility defined under Section 5 of the Renewable Energy
22 Production District Act.

23 "Renewable energy resources" means resources as defined
24 under Section 1-10 of the Illinois Power Agency Act.

25 "Resource recovery" means the recovery of material or
26 energy from waste as defined under Section 3.435 of the

1 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Act.

2 (c) The district may sell or otherwise dispose of
3 recovered resources or renewable energy resources resulting
4 from the operation of district facilities or resulting from
5 the use of district-owned real estate, and it may construct,
6 maintain, finance, and operate such activities, facilities,
7 and other works as are necessary for that purpose.

8 (d) The district may take in materials which are used in
9 the generation of usable products from recovered resources, or
10 which increase the production of renewable energy resources,
11 including, but not limited to food waste, organic fraction of
12 solid waste, commercial or industrial organic wastes, fats,
13 oils, and greases, and vegetable debris.

14 (e) The authorizations granted to the district under this
15 Section shall not be construed as modifying or limiting any
16 other law or regulation. Any actions taken pursuant to the
17 authorities granted in this Section must be in compliance with
18 all applicable laws and regulations, including, but not
19 limited to, the Environmental Protection Act, and rules
20 adopted under that Act.

21 (Source: P.A. 98-731, eff. 7-16-14.)

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
23 becoming law.