

AN ACT

RELATING TO REVENUE BONDS; AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE NMSA 1978 TO CLARIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS RELATING TO MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY REVENUE BONDS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 3-31-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1973, Chapter 395, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"3-31-1. REVENUE BONDS--AUTHORITY TO ISSUE--PLEDGE OF REVENUES--LIMITATION ON TIME OF ISSUANCE.--In addition to any other law and constitutional home rule powers authorizing a municipality to issue revenue bonds, a municipality may issue revenue bonds pursuant to Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978 for the purposes specified in this section. The term "pledged revenues", as used in Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978, means the revenues, net income or net revenues authorized to be pledged to the payment of particular revenue bonds as specifically provided in Subsections A through I of this section.

A. Utility revenue bonds may be issued for acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing or otherwise improving a municipal utility or for any combination of the foregoing purposes. The municipality may pledge irrevocably any or all of the net revenues from the operation of the municipal utility or of any one or more of

other such municipal utilities for payment of the interest on and principal of the revenue bonds. These bonds are sometimes referred to in Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978 as "utility revenue bonds" or "utility bonds".

B. Joint utility revenue bonds may be issued for acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing or otherwise improving joint water facilities, sewer facilities, gas facilities or electric facilities or for any combination of the foregoing purposes. The municipality may pledge irrevocably any or all of the net revenues from the operation of these municipal utilities for the payment of the interest on and principal of the bonds. These bonds are sometimes referred to in Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978 as "joint utility revenue bonds" or "joint utility bonds".

C. For the purposes of this subsection, "gross receipts tax revenue bonds" means gross receipts tax revenue bonds or sales tax revenue bonds. Gross receipts tax revenue bonds may be issued for any one or more of the following purposes:

(1) constructing, purchasing, furnishing, equipping, rehabilitating, making additions to or making improvements to one or more public buildings or purchasing or improving any ground relating thereto, including but not necessarily limited to acquiring and improving parking lots, or any combination of the foregoing;

(2) acquiring or improving municipal or public parking lots, structures or facilities or any combination of the foregoing;

(3) purchasing, acquiring or rehabilitating fire-fighting equipment or any combination of the foregoing;

(4) acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing, otherwise improving or maintaining storm sewers and other drainage improvements, sanitary sewers, sewage treatment plants or water utilities, including but not necessarily limited to the acquisition of rights of way and water and water rights, or any combination of the foregoing;

(5) reconstructing, resurfacing, maintaining, repairing or otherwise improving existing alleys, streets, roads or bridges or any combination of the foregoing or laying off, opening, constructing or otherwise acquiring new alleys, streets, roads or bridges or any combination of the foregoing; provided that any of the foregoing improvements may include but are not limited to the acquisition of rights of way;

(6) purchasing, acquiring, constructing, making additions to, enlarging, bettering, extending or equipping airport facilities or any combination of the foregoing, including without limitation the acquisition of land, easements or rights of way therefor;

(7) purchasing or otherwise acquiring or clearing land or for purchasing, otherwise acquiring and beautifying land for open space;

(8) acquiring, constructing, purchasing, equipping, furnishing, making additions to, renovating, rehabilitating, beautifying or otherwise improving public parks, public recreational buildings or other public recreational facilities or any combination of the foregoing;

(9) acquiring, constructing, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing, otherwise improving or maintaining solid waste disposal equipment, equipment for operation and maintenance of sanitary landfills, sanitary landfills, solid waste facilities or any combination of the foregoing; and

(10) acquiring, constructing, extending, bettering, repairing or otherwise improving a public transit system or regional transit systems or facilities.

The municipality may pledge irrevocably any or all of the gross receipts tax revenue received by the municipality pursuant to Section 7-1-6.4 or 7-1-6.12 NMSA 1978 to the payment of the interest on and principal of the gross receipts tax revenue bonds for any of the purposes authorized in this section or for specific purposes or for any area of municipal government services, including but not limited to those specified in Subsection C of Section 7-19D-9 NMSA 1978,

or for public purposes authorized by municipalities having constitutional home rule charters. A law that imposes or authorizes the imposition of a municipal gross receipts tax or that affects the municipal gross receipts tax, or a law supplemental thereto or otherwise appertaining thereto, shall not be repealed or amended or otherwise directly or indirectly modified in such a manner as to impair adversely any outstanding revenue bonds that may be secured by a pledge of such municipal gross receipts tax unless the outstanding revenue bonds have been discharged in full or provision has been fully made therefor.

Revenues in excess of the annual principal and interest due on gross receipts tax revenue bonds secured by a pledge of gross receipts tax revenue may be accumulated in a debt service reserve account. The governing body of the municipality may appoint a commercial bank trust department to act as trustee of the gross receipts tax revenue and to administer the payment of principal of and interest on the bonds.

D. As used in this section, the term "public building" includes but is not limited to fire stations, police buildings, municipal jails, regional jails or juvenile detention facilities, libraries, museums, auditoriums, convention halls, hospitals, buildings for administrative offices, city halls and garages for housing, repairing and

maintaining city vehicles and equipment. As used in Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978, the term "gross receipts tax revenue bonds" means the bonds authorized in Subsection C of this section, and the term "gross receipts tax revenue" means the amount of money distributed to the municipality as authorized by Section 7-1-6.4 NMSA 1978 or the amount of money transferred to the municipality as authorized by Section 7-1-6.12 NMSA 1978 for any municipal gross receipts tax imposed pursuant to the Municipal Local Option Gross Receipts Taxes Act. As used in Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978, the term "bond" means any obligation of a municipality issued under Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978, whether designated as a bond, note, loan, warrant, debenture, lease-purchase agreement or other instrument evidencing an obligation of a municipality to make payments.

E. Gasoline tax revenue bonds may be issued for laying off, opening, constructing, reconstructing, resurfacing, maintaining, acquiring rights of way, repairing and otherwise improving municipal buildings, alleys, streets, public roads and bridges or any combination of the foregoing purposes. The municipality may pledge irrevocably any or all of the gasoline tax revenue received by the municipality to the payment of the interest on and principal of the gasoline tax revenue bonds. As used in Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978, "gasoline tax revenue bonds" means the bonds authorized

in this subsection, and "gasoline tax revenue" means all or portions of the amounts of tax revenues distributed to municipalities pursuant to Sections 7-1-6.9 and 7-1-6.27 NMSA 1978, as from time to time amended and supplemented.

F. Project revenue bonds may be issued for acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing, improving, constructing, purchasing, furnishing, equipping and rehabilitating any revenue-producing project, including, where applicable, purchasing, otherwise acquiring or improving the ground therefor, including but not necessarily limited to acquiring and improving parking lots, or for any combination of the foregoing purposes. The municipality may pledge irrevocably any or all of the net revenues from the operation of the revenue-producing project for which the particular project revenue bonds are issued to the payment of the interest on and principal of the project revenue bonds. The net revenues of any revenue-producing project may not be pledged to the project revenue bonds issued for a revenue-producing project that clearly is unrelated in nature; but nothing in this subsection shall prevent the pledge to such project revenue bonds of any revenues received from existing, future or disconnected facilities and equipment that are related to and that may constitute a part of the particular revenue-producing project. A general determination by the governing body that any facilities or equipment is reasonably

related to and constitutes a part of a specified revenue-producing project shall be conclusive if set forth in the proceedings authorizing the project revenue bonds. As used in Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978:

(1) "project revenue bonds" means the bonds authorized in this subsection; and

(2) "project revenues" means the net revenues of revenue-producing projects that may be pledged to project revenue bonds pursuant to this subsection.

G. Fire district revenue bonds may be issued for acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing, improving, constructing, purchasing, furnishing, equipping and rehabilitating any fire district project, including where applicable purchasing, otherwise acquiring or improving the ground therefor, or for any combination of the foregoing purposes. The municipality may pledge irrevocably any or all of the revenues received by the fire district from the fire protection fund as provided in the Fire Protection Fund Law and any or all of the revenues provided for the operation of the fire district project for which the particular bonds are issued to the payment of the interest on and principal of the bonds. The revenues of any fire district project shall not be pledged to the bonds issued for a fire district project that clearly is unrelated in its purpose; but nothing in this section prevents the pledge to such bonds of any revenues



received from existing, future or disconnected facilities and equipment that are related to and that may constitute a part of the particular fire district project. A general determination by the governing body of the municipality that any facilities or equipment is reasonably related to and constitutes a part of a specified fire district project shall be conclusive if set forth in the proceedings authorizing the fire district bonds.

H. Law enforcement protection revenue bonds may be issued for the repair and purchase of law enforcement apparatus and equipment that meet nationally recognized standards. The municipality may pledge irrevocably any or all of the revenues received by the municipality from the law enforcement protection fund distributions pursuant to the Law Enforcement Protection Fund Act to the payment of the interest on and principal of the law enforcement protection revenue bonds.

I. Economic development gross receipts tax revenue bonds may be issued for the purpose of furthering economic development projects as defined in the Local Economic Development Act. The municipality may pledge irrevocably any or all of the revenue received from the municipal infrastructure gross receipts tax to the payment of the interest on and principal of the economic development gross receipts tax revenue bonds for any of the purposes

authorized in this subsection. A law that imposes or authorizes the imposition of a municipal infrastructure gross receipts tax or that affects the municipal infrastructure gross receipts tax, or a law supplemental to or otherwise pertaining to the tax, shall not be repealed or amended or otherwise directly or indirectly modified in such a manner as to impair adversely any outstanding revenue bonds that may be secured by a pledge of the municipal infrastructure gross receipts tax unless the outstanding revenue bonds have been discharged in full or provision has been fully made for their discharge. As used in Chapter 3, Article 31 NMSA 1978, "economic development gross receipts tax revenue bonds" means the bonds authorized in this subsection, and "municipal infrastructure gross receipts tax revenue" means any or all of the revenue from the municipal infrastructure gross receipts tax transferred to the municipality pursuant to Section 7-1-6.12 NMSA 1978.

J. Except for the purpose of refunding previous revenue bond issues, no municipality may sell revenue bonds payable from pledged revenues after the expiration of two years from the date of the ordinance authorizing the issuance of the bonds or, for bonds to be issued and sold to the New Mexico finance authority as authorized in Subsection C of Section 3-31-4 NMSA 1978, after the expiration of two years from the date of the resolution authorizing the issuance of

the bonds. However, any period of time during which a particular revenue bond issue is in litigation shall not be counted in determining the expiration date of that issue."

Section 2. Section 4-62-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1992, Chapter 95, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"4-62-1. REVENUE BONDS--AUTHORITY TO ISSUE--PLEDGE OF REVENUES--LIMITATION ON TIME OF ISSUANCE.--

A. In addition to any other law authorizing a county to issue revenue bonds, a county may issue revenue bonds pursuant to Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978 for the purposes specified in this section. The term "pledged revenues", as used in Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978, means the revenues, net income or net revenues authorized to be pledged to the payment of particular revenue bonds as specifically provided in Subsections B through K of this section.

B. Gross receipts tax revenue bonds may be issued for one or more of the following purposes:

(1) constructing, purchasing, furnishing, equipping, rehabilitating, making additions to or making improvements to one or more public buildings or purchasing or improving ground relating thereto, including but not necessarily limited to acquiring and improving parking lots, or any combination of the foregoing;

(2) acquiring or improving county or public

parking lots, structures or facilities or any combination of the foregoing;

(3) purchasing, acquiring or rehabilitating firefighting equipment or any combination of the foregoing;

(4) acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing, otherwise improving or maintaining storm sewers and other drainage improvements, sanitary sewers, sewage treatment plants, water utilities or other water, wastewater or related facilities, including but not limited to the acquisition of rights of way and water and water rights or any combination of the foregoing;

(5) reconstructing, resurfacing, maintaining, repairing or otherwise improving existing alleys, streets, roads or bridges or any combination of the foregoing or laying off, opening, constructing or otherwise acquiring new alleys, streets, roads or bridges or any combination of the foregoing; provided that any of the foregoing improvements may include the acquisition of rights of way;

(6) purchasing, acquiring, constructing, making additions to, enlarging, bettering, extending or equipping airport facilities or any combination of the foregoing, including without limitation the acquisition of land, easements or rights of way;

(7) purchasing or otherwise acquiring or

clearing land or purchasing, otherwise acquiring and beautifying land for open space;

(8) acquiring, constructing, purchasing, equipping, furnishing, making additions to, renovating, rehabilitating, beautifying or otherwise improving public parks, public recreational buildings or other public recreational facilities or any combination of the foregoing;

(9) acquiring, constructing, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing or otherwise improving or maintaining solid waste disposal equipment, equipment for operation and maintenance of sanitary landfills, sanitary landfills, solid waste facilities or any combination of the foregoing; or

(10) acquiring, constructing, extending, bettering, repairing or otherwise improving public transit systems or any regional transit systems or facilities.

A county may pledge irrevocably any or all of the revenue from the first one-eighth of one percent increment and the third one-eighth of one percent increment of the county gross receipts tax and the county infrastructure gross receipts tax for payment of principal and interest due in connection with, and other expenses related to, gross receipts tax revenue bonds for any of the purposes authorized in this section or specific purposes or for any area of county government services. If the revenue from the first

one-eighth of one percent increment or the third one-eighth of one percent increment of the county gross receipts tax or the county infrastructure gross receipts tax is pledged for payment of principal and interest as authorized by this subsection, the pledge shall require the revenues received from that increment of the county gross receipts tax or the county infrastructure gross receipts tax to be deposited into a special bond fund for payment of the principal, interest and expenses. At the end of each fiscal year, money remaining in the special bond fund after the annual obligations for the bonds are fully met may be transferred to any other fund of the county.

Revenues in excess of the annual principal and interest due on gross receipts tax revenue bonds secured by a pledge of gross receipts tax revenue may be accumulated in a debt service reserve account. The governing body of the county may appoint a commercial bank trust department to act as trustee of the proceeds of the tax and to administer the payment of principal of and interest on the bonds.

C. Fire protection revenue bonds may be issued for acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing, improving, constructing, purchasing, furnishing, equipping or rehabilitating any independent fire district project or facilities, including where applicable purchasing, otherwise acquiring or improving the ground for the project, or any

combination of such purposes. A county may pledge irrevocably any or all of the county fire protection excise tax revenue for payment of principal and interest due in connection with, and other expenses related to, fire protection revenue bonds. These bonds may be referred to in Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978 as "fire protection revenue bonds".

D. Environmental revenue bonds may be issued for the acquisition and construction of solid waste facilities, water facilities, wastewater facilities, sewer systems and related facilities. A county may pledge irrevocably any or all of the county environmental services gross receipts tax revenue for payment of principal and interest due in connection with, and other expenses related to, environmental revenue bonds. These bonds may be referred to in Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978 as "environmental revenue bonds".

E. Gasoline tax revenue bonds may be issued for the acquisition of rights of way for and the construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, maintenance, repair or other improvement of county roads and bridges. A county may pledge irrevocably any or all of the county gasoline tax revenue for payment of principal and interest due in connection with, and other expenses related to, county gasoline tax revenue bonds. These bonds may be referred to in Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978 as "gasoline tax revenue bonds".

F. Utility revenue bonds or joint utility revenue bonds may be issued for acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing or otherwise improving water facilities, sewer facilities, gas facilities or electric facilities or for any combination of the foregoing purposes. A county may pledge irrevocably any or all of the net revenues from the operation of the utility or joint utility for which the particular utility or joint utility bonds are issued to the payment of principal and interest due in connection with, and other expenses related to, utility or joint utility revenue bonds. These bonds may be referred to in Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978 as "utility revenue bonds" or "joint utility revenue bonds".

G. Project revenue bonds may be issued for acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing, improving, constructing, purchasing, furnishing, equipping or rehabilitating any revenue-producing project, including as applicable purchasing, otherwise acquiring or improving the ground therefor and including but not limited to acquiring and improving parking lots, or may be issued for any combination of the foregoing purposes. The county may pledge irrevocably any or all of the net revenues from the operation of the revenue-producing project for which the particular project revenue bonds are issued to the payment of the interest on and principal of the project revenue bonds. The



net revenues of any revenue-producing project may not be pledged to the project revenue bonds issued for any other revenue-producing project that is clearly unrelated in nature; but nothing in this subsection prevents the pledge to any of the project revenue bonds of the revenues received from existing, future or disconnected facilities and equipment that are related to and that may constitute a part of the particular revenue-producing project. A general determination by the governing body that facilities or equipment is reasonably related to and constitute a part of a specified revenue-producing project shall be conclusive if set forth in the proceedings authorizing the project revenue bonds. As used in Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978:

(1) "project revenue bonds" means the bonds authorized in this subsection; and

(2) "project revenues" means the net revenues of revenue-producing projects that may be pledged to project revenue bonds pursuant to this subsection.

H. Fire district revenue bonds may be issued for acquiring, extending, enlarging, bettering, repairing, improving, constructing, purchasing, furnishing, equipping and rehabilitating any fire district project, including where applicable purchasing, otherwise acquiring or improving the ground therefor, or for any combination of the foregoing purposes. The county may pledge irrevocably any or all of

the revenues received by the fire district from the fire protection fund as provided in the Fire Protection Fund Law and any or all of the revenues provided for the operation of the fire district project for which the particular bonds are issued to the payment of the interest on and principal of the bonds. The revenues of a fire district project shall not be pledged to the bonds issued for a fire district project that clearly is unrelated in its purpose; but nothing in this section prevents the pledge to such bonds of revenues received from existing, future or disconnected facilities and equipment that are related to and that may constitute a part of the particular fire district project. A general determination by the governing body of the county that facilities or equipment is reasonably related to and constitute a part of a specified fire district project shall be conclusive if set forth in the proceedings authorizing the fire district bonds.

I. Law enforcement protection revenue bonds may be issued for the repair and purchase of law enforcement apparatus and equipment that meet nationally recognized standards. The county may pledge irrevocably any or all of the revenues received by the county from the law enforcement protection fund distributions pursuant to the Law Enforcement Protection Fund Act to the payment of the interest on and principal of the law enforcement protection revenue bonds.

J. Hospital emergency gross receipts tax revenue bonds may be issued for acquisition, equipping, remodeling or improvement of a county hospital facility. A county may pledge irrevocably, to the payment of the interest on and principal of the hospital emergency gross receipts tax revenue bonds, any or all of the revenues received by the county from a county hospital emergency gross receipts tax imposed pursuant to Section 7-20E-12.1 NMSA 1978 and dedicated to payment of bonds or a loan for acquisition, equipping, remodeling or improvement of a county hospital facility.

K. Economic development gross receipts tax revenue bonds may be issued for the purpose of furthering economic development projects as defined in the Local Economic Development Act. A county may pledge irrevocably any or all of the county infrastructure gross receipts tax to the payment of the interest on and principal of the economic development gross receipts tax revenue bonds for any of the purposes authorized in this subsection.

L. Except for the purpose of refunding previous revenue bond issues, no county may sell revenue bonds payable from pledged revenue after the expiration of two years from the date of the ordinance authorizing the issuance of the bonds or, for bonds to be issued and sold to the New Mexico finance authority as authorized in Subsection C of Section

4-62-4 NMSA 1978, after the expiration of two years from the date of the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds. However, any period of time during which a particular revenue bond issue is in litigation shall not be counted in determining the expiration date of that issue.

M. No bonds may be issued by a county, other than an H class county, a class B county as defined in Section 4-36-8 NMSA 1978 or a class A county as described in Section 4-36-10 NMSA 1978, to acquire, equip, extend, enlarge, better, repair or construct a utility unless the utility is regulated by the public regulation commission pursuant to the Public Utility Act and the issuance of the bonds is approved by the commission. For purposes of Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978, a "utility" includes but is not limited to a water, wastewater, sewer, gas or electric utility or joint utility serving the public. H class counties shall obtain public regulation commission approvals required by Section 3-23-3 NMSA 1978.

N. Any law that imposes or authorizes the imposition of a county gross receipts tax, a county environmental services gross receipts tax, a county fire protection excise tax, a county infrastructure gross receipts tax, the gasoline tax or the county hospital emergency gross receipts tax, or that affects any of those taxes, shall not

be repealed or amended in such a manner as to impair outstanding revenue bonds that are issued pursuant to Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978 and that may be secured by a pledge of those taxes unless the outstanding revenue bonds have been discharged in full or provision has been fully made therefor.

0. As used in this section:

(1) "county infrastructure gross receipts tax revenue" means the revenue from the county infrastructure gross receipts tax transferred to the county pursuant to Section 7-1-6.13 NMSA 1978;

(2) "county environmental services gross receipts tax revenue" means the revenue from the county environmental services gross receipts tax transferred to the county pursuant to Section 7-1-6.13 NMSA 1978;

(3) "county fire protection excise tax revenue" means the revenue from the county fire protection excise tax transferred to the county pursuant to Section 7-1-6.13 NMSA 1978;

(4) "county gross receipts tax revenue" means the revenue attributable to the first one-eighth of one percent and the third one-eighth of one percent increments of the county gross receipts tax transferred to the county pursuant to Section 7-1-6.13 NMSA 1978 and any distribution related to the first one-eighth of one percent made pursuant to Section 7-1-6.16 NMSA 1978;

(5) "gasoline tax revenue" means the revenue from that portion of the gasoline tax distributed to the county pursuant to Sections 7-1-6.9 and 7-1-6.26 NMSA 1978; and

(6) "public building" includes but is not limited to fire stations, police buildings, county or regional jails, county or regional juvenile detention facilities, libraries, museums, auditoriums, convention halls, hospitals, buildings for administrative offices, courthouses and garages for housing, repairing and maintaining county vehicles and equipment.

P. As used in Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978, the term "bond" means any obligation of a county issued under Chapter 4, Article 62 NMSA 1978, whether designated as a bond, note, loan, warrant, debenture, lease-purchase agreement or other instrument evidencing an obligation of a county to make payments."

Section 3. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

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