

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 960

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax-exempt financing of certain government-owned buildings.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 7, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. HURD, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. PERRY, Mr. RENACCI, and Mr. KIND) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax-exempt financing of certain government-owned buildings.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING OF QUALIFIED GOV-**  
4 **ERNMENT BUILDINGS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 142(a) of the Internal  
6 Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “or” at the  
7 end of paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end  
8 of paragraph (15) and inserting “, or”, and by adding at  
9 the end the following new paragraph:

1 “(16) qualified government buildings.”.

2 (b) QUALIFIED GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.—Section  
3 142 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the  
4 following new subsection:

5 “(n) QUALIFIED GOVERNMENTAL BUILDINGS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection  
7 (a)(16), the term ‘qualified governmental buildings’  
8 means any building or facility that consists of one  
9 or more of the following:

10 “(A) An elementary school or a secondary  
11 school (within the meanings given such terms  
12 by section 14101 of the Elementary and Sec-  
13 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
14 8801), as in effect on the date of the enactment  
15 of this subsection).

16 “(B) Facilities of a State college or univer-  
17 sity used for educational purposes.

18 “(C) A library maintained for, and open  
19 to, the general public.

20 “(D) A Court of law.

21 “(E) A hospital, health care facilities, lab-  
22 oratory facilities or research facilities.

23 “(F) Public safety facilities (including po-  
24 lice, fire, enhanced 911, emergency or disaster  
25 management, and ambulance or emergency

1 medical service facilities and jails and correc-  
2 tional facilities).

3 “(G) Offices for employees of a govern-  
4 mental unit.

5 Such term shall include any equipment, functionally  
6 related and subordinate facility, or land (and any  
7 real property rights appurtenant thereto) with re-  
8 spect to any such building or facility.

9 “(2) SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FACILITIES.—  
10 Such term shall not include—

11 “(A) a building or facility the primary pur-  
12 pose of which is one of the following: retail food  
13 and beverage services, or the provision of recre-  
14 ation or entertainment, or

15 “(B) any building or facility that includes  
16 any of the following: any private or commercial  
17 golf course, country club, massage parlor, ten-  
18 nis club, skating facility (including roller skat-  
19 ing, skateboard, and ice skating), racquet  
20 sports facility (including any handball or  
21 racquetball court), hot tub facility, suntan facil-  
22 ity, racetrack, convention center, or sports sta-  
23 dium or arena.

1           “(3) NATIONAL LIMITATION ON AMOUNT OF  
2           TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING FOR QUALIFIED GOVERN-  
3           MENTAL BUILDING.—

4           “(A) NATIONAL LIMITATION.—The aggre-  
5           gate amount allocated by the Secretary under  
6           subparagraph (C) shall not exceed  
7           \$5,000,000,000.

8           “(B) ENFORCEMENT OF NATIONAL LIM-  
9           TATION.—An issue shall not be treated as an  
10          issue described in subsection (a)(16) if the ag-  
11          gregate face amount of bonds issued pursuant  
12          to such issue for any qualified governmental  
13          building (when added to the aggregate face  
14          amount of bonds previously so issued for such  
15          facility) exceeds the amount allocated to such  
16          qualified governmental building under subpara-  
17          graph (C).

18          “(C) ALLOCATION BY THE SECRETARY.—  
19          The Secretary shall allocate a portion of the  
20          amount described in subparagraph (A) to a  
21          qualified governmental building if the Secretary  
22          determines that—

23                 “(i) the application for financing of  
24                 such qualified governmental building meets

1 the requirements set forth in subparagraph  
2 (D), and

3 “(ii) the amount of the allocation re-  
4 quested, if allocated by the Secretary,  
5 would not cause the national limitation set  
6 forth in subparagraph (A) to be exceeded.

7 “(D) APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCING.—An  
8 application for financing a qualified govern-  
9 mental building meets the requirements of this  
10 subparagraph if such application includes—

11 “(i) the amount of the allocation re-  
12 quested,

13 “(ii) the name of the governmental  
14 unit that will own the project, together  
15 with complete contact information,

16 “(iii) a description of the project as a  
17 whole and the proposed organizational and  
18 legal structure of the project,

19 “(iv) a timeline showing the estimated  
20 start and completion dates for each major  
21 phase or milestone of project development  
22 and an indication of the current status of  
23 milestones on this timeline, including all  
24 necessary permits and environmental ap-  
25 provals,

1 “(v) a statement of anticipated  
2 sources and uses of funds for the project,  
3 and

4 “(vi) the following declaration signed  
5 by an individual who has personal knowl-  
6 edge of the relevant facts and cir-  
7 cumstances: ‘Under penalties of perjury, I  
8 declare that I have examined this docu-  
9 ment and, to the best of my knowledge and  
10 belief, the document contains all the rel-  
11 evant facts relating to the document, and  
12 such facts are true, correct, and complete.’.

13 “(E) USE OF ALLOCATION IN A TIMELY  
14 MANNER.—If, following an allocation by the  
15 Secretary under subparagraph (C), bonds are  
16 not issued in the amount of such allocation  
17 after the date that is 2 years after the date of  
18 such allocation, then the unused portion of the  
19 allocation shall be withdrawn, unless the Sec-  
20 retary, upon a showing of good cause by the ap-  
21 plicant, grants an extension of such date.

22 “(4) EXCEPTION FOR CURRENT REFUNDING  
23 BONDS.—Paragraph (4) shall not apply to any bond  
24 (or series of bonds) issued to refund a bond issued  
25 under subsection (a)(16) if—

1           “(A) the average maturity date of the issue  
 2           of which the refunding bond is a part is not  
 3           later than the average maturity date of the  
 4           bonds to be refunded by such issue,

5           “(B) the amount of the refunding bond  
 6           does not exceed the outstanding amount of the  
 7           refunded bond, and

8           “(C) the refunded bond is redeemed not  
 9           later than 90 days after the date of the  
 10          issuance of the refunding bond.

11          For purposes of subparagraph (A), average maturity  
 12          shall be determined in accordance with section  
 13          147(b)(2)(A).

14          “(5) OFFICE SPACE.—Subsection (b)(2) shall  
 15          not apply with respect to any qualified governmental  
 16          building.

17          “(6) NO DEPRECIATION OR INVESTMENT CRED-  
 18          IT.—No depreciation, amortization, or business cred-  
 19          it under section 38 shall be allowed with respect to  
 20          any facility described in subsection (a)(16) which  
 21          has been financed by the net proceeds of the issue  
 22          for so long as such bonds are outstanding.”.

23          (c) GOVERNMENTALLY OWNED REQUIREMENT.—  
 24          Section 142(b)(1)(A) of such Code is amended by striking  
 25          “or (12)” and inserting “(12), or (16)”.

1       (d) EXEMPTION FROM VOLUME CAP ON PRIVATE  
2   ACTIVITY BONDS.—Section 146(g)(3) of such Code is  
3   amended by striking “or (15)” and inserting “(15), or  
4   (16)”.

5       (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
6   this section shall apply to bonds issued after the date of  
7   the enactment of this Act.

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