State of Arkansas
87th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2009 HJR 1003

By: Representative Maloch

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REMOVE FROM THE CONSTITUTION INTEREST RATE LIMITS ON BONDS ISSUED BY AND LOANS MADE BY OR TO GOVERNMENTAL UNITS.

## Subtitle

> PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REMOVE FROM THE CONSTITUTION INTEREST
> RATE LIMITS ON BONDS ISSUED BY AND LOANS MADE BY OR TO GOVERNMENTAL UNITS.
be it resolved by the house of representatives of the eighty-seventh general ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

SECTION 1. The maximum lawful rates of interest on bonds issued by governmental units in the State of Arkansas as set forth in various provisions and amendments to the Arkansas Constitution of 1874 , including Article $19 \S 13$ and Amendment Nos. 30, 38, 62, 65, and 78, are removed.

SECTION 2. The maximum lawful rate of interest on loans made by or to governmental units in the State of Arkansas as set forth in Article 19 § 13 of the Arkansas Constitution of 1874 is removed.

SECTION 3. (a) The term "bonds" means all bonds, notes, certificates, financing leases or other interest-bearing instruments or evidences of indebtedness.
(b) The term "governmental unit" means the State of Arkansas; any county, municipality, school district, or other political subdivision of the State of Arkansas; any special assessment or taxing district established under the laws of the State of Arkansas; and any agency, board, commission, or instrumentality of any of the foregoing.
(c) The term "loans" means all direct or indirect advances of funds and moneys that are conditioned on the obligation of a person or entity to repay the funds and moneys pursuant to loan agreements, lease agreements, installment sale agreements, security agreements, notes, or other instruments or documents evidencing the indebtedness.

SECTION 4. The ballot title for this amendment shall be:
An amendment to the Arkansas Constitution to remove the constitutional interest rate limits on bonds issued by and loans made by or to governmental units by repealing the interest rate limitations set forth in Article 19 § 13, and Amendment Nos. $30,38,62,65$, and 78 of the Arkansas Constitution with respect to such bonds and loans.

SECTION 5. Nothing set forth in this act shall limit the power of the General Assembly to fix, from time to time, one or more interest rate limits on various types of bonds and loans.

SECTION 6. If any provision of this Amendment or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Amendment and the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 7. The provisions of this Amendment shall be self-executing.

SECTION 8. The provisions of this Amendment shall apply to all bonds issued and loans made in whole or in part after the effective date of this Amendment.

SECTION 9. All provisions of the Constitution of 1874 or Amendments in conflict with this Amendment relating to limitation of the charging or paying of interest or the limitation on the rate of interest that a governmental
unit can pay or be charged on its indebtedness including, but not limited to, provisions of Article $19 \S 13$ and Amendment Nos. 30, 38, 62, 65, and 78 are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

