In order to provide funds necessary for vessel acquisition, vessel construction, major and minor vessel improvements, and terminal construction and improvements for the Washington state ferries, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the department general obligation bonds of the state of Washington in the sum of one hundred thirty-five million dollars or such amount thereof as may be required (together with other funds available therefor). If the state of Washington is able to obtain matching funds from the urban mass transportation administration or other federal government agencies for the acquisition of passenger-only vessels capable of operating as an integral part of the Washington state ferries on Puget Sound and the Straits of Juan de Fuca, a sufficient amount of the proceeds of the bonds authorized herein shall be used to pay the state's share of the acquisition cost of the passenger-only vessels. Upon request being made by the department, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. The bonds may be sold from time to time in such amounts as may be necessary for the orderly progress in constructing the ferries. The bonds shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price or prices as the state finance committee shall determine. The state finance committee may obtain insurance, letters of credit, or other credit facility devices with respect to the bonds and may authorize the execution and delivery of agreements, promissory notes, and other obligations for the purpose of insuring the payment or enhancing the marketability of the bonds. Promissory notes or other obligations issued under this section shall not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under any constitutional or statutory indebtedness limitation if their payment is conditioned upon the failure of the state to pay the principal of or interest on the bonds with respect to which the promissory notes or other obligations relate. The state finance committee may authorize the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purposes of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [1986 c 290 § 8; 1985 c 176 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 336; 1977 ex.s. c 360 § 1.]

Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360: "If any provision of this 1977 amendatory act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1977 ex.s. c 360 § 13.]