

**Senate Bill 1133**  
**Use of General Obligation Bond**  
**Premiums to Fund Capital Projects**



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# Current Use of Bond Premiums

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- **Cost of issuing GO bonds**
- **Up to 18 months of interest payments on GO bonds**

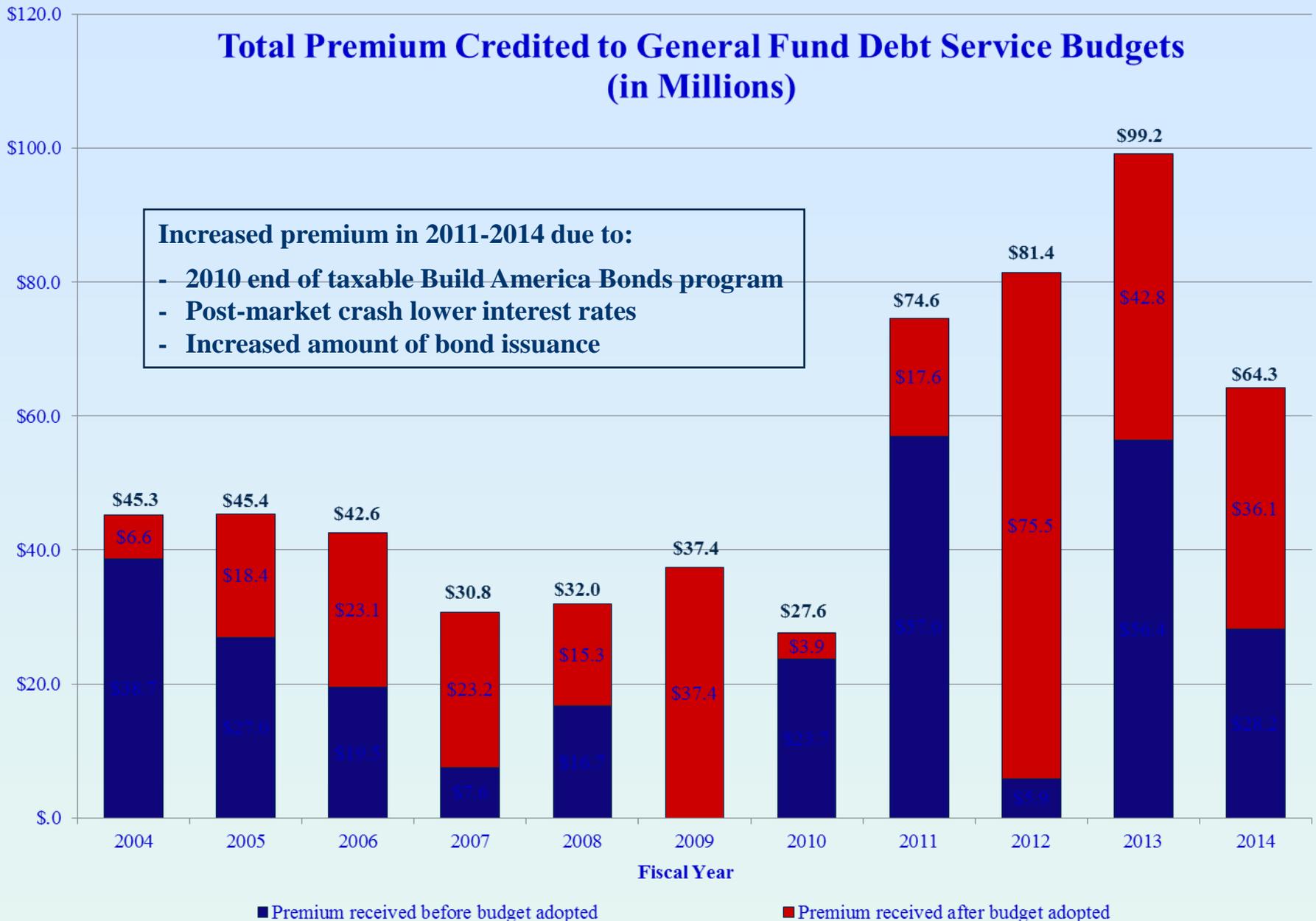
## Impact

- **Contributes to lapses in the debt service line item by replacing General Funds budgeted to cover interest payments on GO bonds**

## Total Premium Credited to General Fund Debt Service Budgets (in Millions)

**Increased premium in 2011-2014 due to:**

- 2010 end of taxable Build America Bonds program
- Post-market crash lower interest rates
- Increased amount of bond issuance



# Benefits of Proposed Change

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## Funding Capital Projects Already Authorized for Borrowing

- **Lowers amount State borrows for authorized capital projects**
- **Reduces outstanding GO debt**
- **Decreases future debt service costs**
- **Conforms use of GO premiums to the State's other bonding programs (Special Tax Obligation, Clean Water and UConn bonds)**

# Example of Impact

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## Actual Bond Sale

### Current Law

- **\$300 million actual bond sale – December, 2014**
- **\$300 million in projects funded**
- **\$37.7 million of premium received up front and used to pay interest on GO bonds, contributing to General Fund debt service lapse**
- **\$442.8 million in total debt service due over 20 years**
- **Net debt service after accounting for premium received is \$405.1 million (\$442.8 million less \$37.7 million)**

# Example of Impact *(Continued)*

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## Under SB 1133:

- \$267 million bond sale-amount, debt issued reduced \$33 million, or 11%
- \$300 million in projects funded – same
- \$0 million of premium used to pay interest on GO bonds
- \$393.5 million in debt service due over 20 years

# Example of Impact *(Continued)*

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## Summary

Debt outstanding would be reduced from \$300 million to \$267 million leading to a savings of \$11.6 million over the 20 year life of the bonds.

Total Debt Service (Current Law)	\$405.1 million
Total Debt Service (Proposal)	<u>\$393.5 million</u>
Net Savings	<u>\$ 11.6 million</u>

# What are Bond Premiums?

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- **An up-front payment by investors to the State in exchange for the State paying a higher stated interest rate on a given bond compared to market rates.**
- **The premium amount is equal to the difference between the higher interest rate and what would have been paid at market rates.**

# Why do investors want to buy bonds with a premium structure?

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- **Market phenomenon in a low interest rate market that results from investors' wanting to purchase bonds with higher interest rates to avoid certain negative provisions in the federal tax code.**
- **Higher coupon premium bonds are less sensitive to rising interest rates making them more liquid and easier to sell.**
- **Once interest rates rise, bond premiums are expected to become less of a factor in the market.**

# Summary

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- **Bond premiums are prevalent in the municipal bond market.**
- **Using premiums on GO bonds to fund capital projects to reduce the State's high debt levels and future debt service costs:**
  - **Represents a better practice in the efficient management of the State's public finance program in a low interest rate environment**
  - **Consistent with responsible borrowing and stewardship of public resources**

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**Questions?**

# Appendix

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- **Glossary of Bond Terms**
  - **Bond Pricing Basics**
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# Glossary of Bond Terms

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**“Par” is the face value of a bond and represents the amount of principal that must be paid at maturity.**

**“Coupon Rate” is the annual rate of interest payable on a bond expressed as a percentage of the principal or face amount of the bond.**

**“Yield” on the bond is the amount of return an investor will realize on a bond taking into account the coupon rate and price.**

**“Issue Price” of a bond is calculated based on the coupon rate that bond pays and the yield on the bond.**

# Glossary of Bond Terms *(Continued)*

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**“Par Bond”** price paid for the bond is the same as the face value. For example, for a bond with a par value of \$1,000, the price of that bond is also \$1,000.

In addition to par, a bond can also sell at a “Premium” or a “Discount.”

**“Premium Bond”** the price paid for the bond is greater than the 1,000 face value.

**“Discount Bond”** the price paid for the bond is less than the \$1,000 face value.

# Bond Pricing Basics

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**Par Bond** - the yield is equal to the coupon rate.

**Premium Bond** - the coupon rate is higher than the yield and represents the overall return to the investor incorporating the higher price that they pay for the bond initially.

**Discount Bond** - the coupon rate is lower than the yield and represents the overall return to the investor incorporating the lower price that they pay for the bond initially.

# Bond Pricing Basics *(Continued)*

## Example – 10 Year Non-Callable

### \$1,000 Face Value Bond

<u>Type of Bond</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Coupon</u>	<u>Yield</u>
Par	\$1,000	3.00%	3.00%
Premium	\$1,171	5.00%	3.00%
Discount	\$957	2.50%	3.00%