REFUNDING/NEW MONEY ISSUE - BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law and assuming continued compliance with certain requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, interest on the Bonds will not be included in the gross income of holders of the Bonds for federal income tax purposes. While interest on the Bonds will not constitute a preference item for purposes of computation of the alternative minimum tax imposed on certain individuals and corporations, interest on the Bonds will be included in the "adjusted current earnings" of corporate holders of the Bonds and therefore will be taken into account in computing the alternative minimum tax applicable to certain corporations. In the opinion of Bond Counsel, interest on the Bonds is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, and the Bonds are exempt from Massachusetts personal property taxes. For federal and Massachusetts tax purposes, interest includes accrued original issue discount. See "TAX MATTERS" herein.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS



Dated: Date of Delivery

\$290,920,000 General Obligation Bonds Consolidated Loan of 2004 Series A \$882,975,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds 2004 Series A

Due: As shown on the inside cover hereof

The Bonds will be issued by means of a book-entry-only system evidencing ownership and transfer of the Bonds on the records of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") and its participants. Details of payment of the Bonds are more fully described in this Official Statement. The Bonds will bear interest from their delivery date and interest will be payable on August 1, 2004 and semiannually thereafter on February 1 and August 1, calculated on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months; provided that accrued interest on the New Money Bonds (defined herein) maturing on June 1, 2004 shall be payable on that date. The Bonds are subject to redemption prior to maturity, as more fully described herein.

The Bonds will constitute general obligations of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "Commonwealth"), and the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth will be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds. However, for information regarding certain statutory limits on state tax revenue growth and on expenditures for debt service, see "SECURITY FOR THE BONDS" (herein) and the Information Statement (referred to herein) under the headings "COMMONWEALTH REVENUES – Limitations on Tax Revenues" and "LONG-TERM LIABILITIES – General Authority to Borrow; Limit on Debt Service Appropriations."

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued and received by the Underwriters, and subject to the unqualified approving opinion as to legality of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., Boston, Massachusetts, Bond Counsel. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Commonwealth by Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston, Massachusetts, Disclosure Counsel. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by their counsel, Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. The Bonds are expected to be available for delivery at DTC in New York, New York, on or about January 28, 2004.

Citigroup

Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. JPMorgan

Advest, Inc. Corby North Bridge Securities First Albany Corporation Merrill Lynch & Co. Quick & Reilly, Inc. RBC Dain Rauscher Lehman Brothers

A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. Eastern Bank Capital Markets Janney Montgomery Scott Inc. Morgan Stanley Ramirez & Co., Inc. Goldman, Sachs & Co. UBS Financial Services Inc.

CIBC World Markets Fidelity Capital Markets Mellon Financial Markets, Inc Oppenheimer & Co. Raymond James & Associates, Inc. Wachovia Bank, National Association

January 15, 2004

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

\$290,920,000 General Obligation Bonds Consolidated Loan of 2004, Series A

Dated: Date of Delivery

Due: August 1, as shown below, except as indicated

Maturity	Amount	Interest Rate	Price or Yield
2004*	\$15,000,000	6.000%	NRO
2012	49,715,000	5.000	3.200%
2013	52,330,000	5.250	3.410
2014	55,085,000	5.000	3.570
2015	57,910,000	5.000	3.710 C
2016	60,880,000	5.000	3.830 C

\$882,975,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds 2004 Series A

Dated: Date of Delivery

Due: August 1, as shown below

<u>Maturity</u>	Amount	Interest Rate	Price or Yield
2007	\$45,425,000	5.000%	1.830%
2008	59,875,000	5.000	2.170
2009	23,055,000	5.000	2.420
2010	3,955,000	5.000	2.680
2011+	34,810,000	5.000	2.850
2013	22,170,000	5.250	3.410
2014	50,220,000	5.000	3.570
2015	22,775,000	5.250	3.710
2016	21,055,000	5.250	3.840
2017	1,115,000	5.250	3.940
2018	20,805,000	5.250	4.030
2019	36,380,000	5.250	4.120
2020 ‡	59,365,000	5.250	4.120
2020	94,880,000	5.250	4.200
2021	128,770,000	5.250	4.280
2022	61,520,000	5.250	4.350
2023 ?	6,420,000	4.200	4.300
2024 ?	1,510,000	4.250	4.360

\$188,870,000 ? 5.500% Term Bond Due August 1, 2030 to Yield 4.450%

* Maturing June 1, 2004.

^c Subject to optional redemption and priced at the stated yield to the August 1, 2014 redemption date at a redemption price of 100%. See "THE BONDS – Redemption" herein.

+ Insured by MBIA Insurance Corporation. See "BOND INSURANCE - Payment of MBIA Insured Bonds Pursuant to MBIA Policy" herein.

‡ Insured by Financial Security Assurance Inc. See "BOND INSURANCE - Financial Security Assurance Inc." herein.

? Insured by Ambac Assurance Corporation. See "BOND INSURANCE - Payment of Ambac Insured Bonds Pursuant to Ambac Policy" herein .

Other than with respect to information concerning Financial Security Assurance Inc. ("FSA") contained herein under the headin g"BOND INSURANCE – Financial Security Assurance Inc." and in the specimen Municipal Bond Insurance Policy of FSA set forth in Appendix D – "Specimen Financial Guaranty Insurance Policies," none of the information in this Official Statement has been supplied or verified by FSA and FSA makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to (i) the accuracy or completeness of such information; (ii) the validity of the Bonds; or (iii) the tax exempt status of the interest on the Bonds.

No dealer, broker, salesperson or other person has been authorized by The Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the Underwriters of the Bonds to give any information or to make any representations, other than those contained in this Official Statement, and if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by either of the foregoing. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of any offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds offered hereby by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such offer, solicitation or sale. The information set forth herein or included by reference herein has been furnished by the Commonwealth and includes information obtained from other sources which are believed to be reliable, but is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness and is not to be construed as a representation by the Underwriters of the Bonds or, as to information from other sources, the Commonwealth. The information and expressions of opinion herein or included by reference herein are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Commonwealth, or its agencies, authorities or political subdivisions, since the date hereof, except as expressly set forth herein.

THE UNDERWRITERS HAVE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE FOR INCLUSION IN THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT: THE UNDERWRITERS HAVE REVIEWED THE INFORMATION IN THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH, AND AS PART OF, THEIR RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES TO INVESTORS UNDER THE FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS AS APPLIED TO THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS TRANSACTION, BUT THE UNDERWRITERS DO NOT GUARANTEE THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF SUCH INFORMATION.

IN CONNECTION WITH THIS OFFERING THE UNDERWRITERS MAY OVERALLOT OR EFFECT TRANSACTIONS WHICH STABILIZE OR MAINTAIN THE MARKET PRICE OF THE BONDS OFFERED HEREBY AT LEVELS ABOVE THOSE WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE PREVAIL ON THE OPEN MARKET. SUCH STABILIZING, IF COMMENCED, MAY BE DISCONTINUED AT ANY TIME.

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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS



CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

W. Mitt Romney	Governor
Kerry Healey	Lieutenant Governor
• •	Secretary of the Commonwealth
Thomas F. Reilly	Attorney General
Timothy P. Cahill	Treasurer and Receiver-General
A. Joseph DeNucci	Auditor

LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS

Robert E. Travaglini	President of the Senate
Thomas M. Finneran	Speaker of the House

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

\$290,920,000 General Obligation Bonds Consolidated Loan of 2004, Series A

\$882,975,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds 2004 Series A

INTRODUCTION

This Official Statement (including the cover pages and Appendices A through D attached hereto) provides certain information in connection with the issuance by The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "Commonwealth") of \$290,920,000 aggregate principal amount of its General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2004, Series A (the "New Money Bonds") and of \$882,975,000 aggregate principal amount of its General Obligation Refunding Bonds, 2004 Series A (the "Refunding Bonds") (the New Money Bonds and the Refunding Bonds, together, being the "Bonds"). The Bonds will be general obligations of the Commonwealth, and the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth will be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds. Ho wever, for information regarding certain statutory limits on state tax revenue growth and expenditures for debt service, see "SECURITY FOR THE BONDS" and the Information Statement (described below) under the headings "COMMONWEALTH REVENUES – Limitations on Tax Revenues" and "LONG-TERM LIABILITIES – General Authority to Borrow; Limit on Debt Service Appropriations."

The New Money Bonds are being issued to finance certain authorized capital projects of the Commonwealth. The Refunding Bonds are being issued to refund certain bonds of the Commonwealth, as set forth in Appendix A – Table of Refunded Bonds. See "THE BONDS – Plan of Finance" and "Application of Proceeds."

Purpose and Content of Official Statement

This Official Statement describes the terms and use of proceeds of, and security for, the Bonds. This introduction is subject in all respects to the additional information contained in this Official Statement, including Appendices A through D. All descriptions of documents contained herein are only summaries and are qualified in their entirety by reference to each such document.

Specific reference is made to the Commonwealth's Information Statement dated September 18, 2003 (the "September Information Statement"), as it appears as Appendix A in the Official Statement dated September 18, 2003 of the Commonwealth with respect to the Commonwealth's General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes, 2003 Series A (the "September Official Statement"). A copy of the September Official Statement has been filed with each Nationally Recognized Municipal Securities Information Repository currently recognized by the Securities and Exchange Commission and with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. Specific reference also is made to the Commonwealth's Information Statement Supplement dated January 8, 2004 (the "January Supplement"), as it appears as Appendix A in the Official Statement dated January 8, 2004 of the Commonwealth with respect to the Commonwealth's General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes, 2004 Series A (the "January 8 Official Statement"). A copy of the January 8 Official Statement has been filed with each Nationally Recognized Municipal Securities Information Repository currently recognized by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The September Information Statement and the January Supplement are referred to herein collectively as the "Information Statement". The Information Statement, contains certain fiscal, budgetary, financial and other general information concerning the Commonwealth. Exhibit A to the Information Statement contains certain economic information concerning the Commonwealth. Exhibits B and C to the Information Statement contain the financial statements of the Commonwealth for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, prepared on a statutory basis and on a GAAP basis, respectively. Specific reference is made to said Exhibits A, B and C, copies of which have been filed with each Nationally Recognized Municipal Securities Information Repository currently recognized by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The financial statements are also available at the home page of the Comptroller of the Commonwealth located at http://www.mass.gov/osc by clicking on "Financial Reports/Audits".

Attached hereto as Appendix A is a listing of the bonds to be refunded with the proceeds of the Refunding Bonds. Appendix B attached hereto contains the proposed forms of legal opinions of Bond Counsel with respect to the Bonds. Appendix C attached hereto contains the proposed form of the Commonwealth's continuing disclosure undertaking to be included in the forms of the Bonds to facilitate compliance by the Underwriters with the requirements of paragraph (b)(5) of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Appendix D attached hereto sets forth specimen financial guaranty insurance policies of Ambac Assurance Corporation, MBIA Insurance Corporation and Financial Security Assurance Inc.

THE BONDS

General

The Bonds will be dated their date of delivery and will bear interest from such date payable semiannually on February 1 and August 1 of each year, commencing August 1, 2004 (each an "Interest Payment Date") until the principal amount is paid (provided that accrued interest on the New Money Bonds maturing on June 1, 2004 shall be payable on that date). The Bonds will mature on August 1 in the years and in the aggregate principal amounts, and shall bear interest at the rates per annum (calculated on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months), as set forth on the inside cover page of this Official Statement (provided that the New Money Bonds maturing on June 1, 2004 shall mature on that date). The Commonwealth will act as its own paying agent with respect to the Bonds. The Commonwealth reserves the right to appoint from time to time a paying agent or agents or bond registrar for the Bonds.

Book -Entry-Only System. The Bonds will be issued by means of a book-entry-only system, with one bond certificate for each maturity of each series immobilized at The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"). The certificates will not be available for distribution to the public and will evidence ownership of the Bonds in principal amounts of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof. Transfers of ownership will be effected on the records of DTC and its participants pursuant to rules and procedures established by DTC and its participants. Interest and principal due on the Bonds will be paid in clearing house funds to DTC or its nominee as registered owner of the Bonds. The record date for payments on account of the Bonds will be the business day next preceding an Interest Payment Date. As long as the book-entry-only system remains in effect, DTC or its nominee will be recognized as the owner of the Bonds for all purposes, including notices and voting. The Commonwealth will not be responsible or liable for maintaining, supervising or reviewing the records maintained by DTC, its participants or persons acting through such participants . See "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM."

Redemption

Optional Redemption. The Refunding Bonds are not subject to optional redemption prior to maturity. The New Money Bonds maturing on or prior to August 1, 2014 are not subject to optional redemption prior to maturity. The New Money Bonds maturing on and after August 1, 2015 will be subject to redemption on any date prior to their stated maturity dates on and after August 1, 2014 at the option of the Commonwealth from any monies legally available therefor, in whole or in part at any time, by lot, at 100% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued interest to the redemption date.

Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemption. The Refunding Bonds maturing on August 1, 2030 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption on August 1 in each of the years and each of the principal amounts set forth below plus accrued interest to the redemption date, as follows:

Year	<u>Amount</u>
2029	\$91,540,000
2030	97,330,000

The Commonwealth shall be entitled to reduce its mandatory sinking fund redemption obligation in any year with respect to such Bonds by the principal amount of any such Bond previously purchased or optionally redeemed by the Commonwealth.

Notice of Redemption. The Commonwealth shall give notice of redemption to the owners of the Bonds not less than 30 days prior to the date fixed for redemption. So long as the book-entry-only system remains in effect for the Bonds, notices of redemption will be mailed by the Commonwealth only to DTC or its nominee. Any failure on the part

of DTC, any DTC participant or any nominee of a beneficial owner of any Bond (having received notice from a DTC participant or otherwise) to notify the beneficial owner so affected, shall not affect the validity of the redemption.

On the specified redemption date, all Bonds called for redemption shall cease to bear interest, provided the Commonwealth has monies on hand to pay such redemption in full.

Selection for Redemption. In the event that less than all of any maturity of the Bonds is to be redeemed, and so long as the book-entry-only system remains in effect for such Bonds, the particular Bonds or portion of any such Bonds of a particular maturity to be redeemed will be selected by DTC by lot. If the book-entry-only system no longer remains in effect for the Bonds, selection for redemption of less than all of any one maturity of the Bonds will be made by the Commonwealth by lot in such manner as in its discretion it shall deem appropriate and fair. For purposes of selection by lot within a maturity, each \$5,000 of principal amount of a Bond will be considered a separate Bond.

Plan of Finance

The Refunding Bonds are being issued pursuant to the provisions of Section 53A of Chapter 29 of the Massachusetts General Laws for the purpose of refunding the bonds set forth in Appendix A (the "Refunded Bonds"). The net proceeds of the Refunding Bonds will be applied as described in the following paragraph. Any accrued interest payable upon original delivery of the Refunding Bonds will be credited to the funds from which debt service on the Refunding Bonds is paid and will be used to pay interest on the Refunding Bonds. The net proceeds of the New Money Bonds will be applied as described below under Application of Proceeds.

The Commonwealth, upon the delivery of the Refunding Bonds, will enter into a refunding escrow agreement (the "Escrow Agreement") with an escrow agent (the "Escrow Agent") to be selected for the Refunded Bonds. The Escrow Agreement will provide for the deposit of the net proceeds of the Refunding Bonds with the Escrow Agent, to be applied immediately upon receipt to purchase non-callable direct obligations of, or obligations the payment of the principal of and interest on which are unconditionally guaranteed by, the United States of America, obligations of certain federal agencies specified in Section 49 of Chapter 29 of the Massachusetts General Laws or of any agency or corporation which has been created pursuant to an act of Congress of the United States as an agency or instrumentality of the United States of America, bank time deposits or certificates of deposit that are secured by such obligations, repurchase agreements with banks in respect of any such obligations or advance-refunded or defeased bonds that are secured by such obligations (the "Escrow Obligations") and to funding, if needed, a cash deposit in such account. The Escrow Agreement will require that maturing principal of and interest on the Escrow Obligations held under such Escrow Agreement, plus any initial cash deposit, be held in trust in such account and paid to the Commonwealth solely for the payment of the principal of and redemption premium, if any, and interest on the Refunded Bonds subject to such Escrow Agreement. According to the report described in "VERIFICATION OF MATHEMATICAL COMPUTATIONS," the Escrow Obligations held under the Escrow Agreement will mature at such times and earn interest in such amounts that. together with any initial cash deposit, will produce sufficient monies to make such payments on the Refunded Bonds subject to such Escrow Agreement to and including their respective maturity or redemption dates, each as set forth in Appendix A.

Application of Proceeds

The net proceeds of the sale of the New Money Bonds will be applied by the Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth (the "State Treasurer") to the various purposes for which the issuance of bonds has been authorized by the Legislature or to reimburse the state treasury for expenditures previously made pursuant to such laws. Any accrued interest payable upon original delivery of the New Money Bonds will be credited ratably to the funds from which debt service on the New Money Bonds is paid and will be used to pay interest on the New Money Bonds. Any premium received by the Commo nwealth upon original delivery of the New Money Bonds will be treated as net proceeds of the issue except to the extent that the State Treasurer may determine to apply all or a portion of such net premium to the costs of issuance thereof and other financing costs related thereto or to the payment of the principal of or sinking fund installments with respect to the New Money Bonds.

The purposes for which the New Money Bonds will be issued have been authorized by the Legislature under various bond authorizations. A portion of the net proceeds will be used to finance or reimburse the Commonwealth for a variety of capital expenditures that are included within the current multi-year capital spending plan established by the Executive Office for Administration and Finance. The plan, which is an administrative guideline and is subject to

amendment at any time, sets forth capital spending allocations over the next four fiscal years and establishes annual capital spending limits. See the Information Statement under the heading "COMMONWEALTH CAPITAL ASSET INVESTMENT PLAN."

SECURITY FOR THE BONDS

The Bonds will be general obligations of the Commonwealth to which its full faith and credit will be pledged for the payment of principal and interest when due. However, it should be noted that Chapter 62F of the Massachusetts General Laws imposes a state tax revenue growth limit and does not exclude principal and interest payments on Commonwealth debt obligations from the scope of the limit. It should be noted further that Section 60B of Chapter 29 of the Massachusetts General Laws imposes an annual limitation on the percentage of total appropriations that may be expended for payment of interest and principal on general obligation debt of the Commonwealth. These statutes are both subject to amendment or repeal by the Legislature. Currently, both actual tax revenue growth and annual general obligation debt service are below the statutory limits. See the Information Statement under the headings "COMMONWEALTH REVENUES – Limitations on Tax Revenues" and "LONG-TERM LIABILITIES – General Authority to Borrow; Limit on Debt Service Appropriations."

The Commonwealth has waived its sovereign immunity and consented to be sued on contractual obligations, including the Bonds, and all claims with respect thereto. However, the property of the Commonwealth is not subject to attachment or levy to pay a judgment, and the satisfaction of any judgment generally requires a legislative appropriation. Enforcement of a claim for payment of principal of or interest on the Bonds may also be subject to the provisions of federal or state statutes, if any, hereafter enacted extending the time for payment or imposing other constraints upon enforcement, insofar as the same may be constitutionally applied. The United States Bankruptcy Code is not applicable to the Commonwealth. Under Massachusetts law, the Bonds have all the qualities and incidents of negotiable instruments under the Uniform Commercial Code. The Bonds are not subject to acceleration.

BOND INSURANCE

Ambac Assurance Corporation ("Ambac") has made a commitment to issue a financial guaranty insurance policy (the "Ambac Policy") relating to the Refunding Bonds maturing on August 1, 2023, 2024 and 2030 (the "Ambac Insured Bonds"). MBIA Insurance Corporation ("MBIA") has made a commitment to issue a financial guaranty insurance policy (the "MBIA Policy") relating to the Refunding Bonds maturing on August 1, 2011 (the "MBIA Insured Bonds"). Financial Security Assurance Inc. ("FSA") has made a commitment to issue a financial guaranty insurance policy (the "FSA Policy") relating to the \$59,365,000 principal amount of Refunding Bonds maturing on August 1, 2020 and yielding 4.120% (the "FSA Insured Bonds"). Certain information regarding payment of the Ambac Insured Bonds pursuant to the Ambac Policy, Ambac, payment of the MBIA Insured Bonds pursuant to the MBIA Policy, MBIA, payment of the FSA Insured Bonds pursuant to the FSA Policy and FSA appears below. The following information has been supplied by Ambac, MBIA and FSA, respectively, for inclusion in the Official Statement. No representations are made by the Commonwealth or the Underwriters as to the accuracy or completeness of the following information.

Payment of Ambac Insured Bonds Pursuant to Ambac Policy

Ambac has made a commitment to issue the Ambac Policy relating to the Ambac Insured Bonds effective as of the date of issuance of the Ambac Insured Bonds. Under the terms of the Ambac Policy, Ambac will pay to The Bank of New York, in New York, New York or any successor thereto (the "Insurance Trustee") that portion of the principal of and interest on the Ambac Insured Bonds which shall become Due for Payment but shall be unpaid by reason of Nonpayment by the Commonwealth. Ambac will make such payments to the Insurance Trustee on the later of the date on which such principal and interest becomes Due for Payment or within one business day following the date on which Ambac shall have received notice of Nonpayment from the Commonwealth, as paying agent. The insurance will extend for the term of the Ambac Insured Bonds and, once issued, cannot be canceled by Ambac.

The Ambac Policy will insure payment only on stated maturity dates and on mandatory sinking fund installment dates, in the case of principal, and on stated dates for payment, in the case of interest. If the Ambac Insured Bonds become subject to mandatory redemption and insufficient funds are available for redemption of all outstanding Ambac Insured Bonds, Ambac will remain obligated to pay principal of and interest on outstanding Ambac Insured Bonds on the originally scheduled interest and principal payment dates including mandatory sinking fund redemption dates. In the event of any acceleration of the principal of the Ambac Insured Bonds, the insured payments will be made at such times and in such amounts as would have been made had there not been an acceleration.

In the event the Commonwealth has notice that any payment of principal of or interest on an Ambac Insured Bond which has become Due for Payment and which is made to a Holder by or on behalf of the Commonwealth has been deemed a preferential transfer and theretofore recovered from its registered owner pursuant to the United States Bankruptcy Code in accordance with a final, nonappealable order of a court of competent jurisdiction, such registered owner will be entitled to payment from Ambac to the extent of such recovery if sufficient funds are not otherwise available.

The Ambac Policy does **not** insure any risk other than Nonpayment, as defined in the Ambac Policy. Specifically, the Ambac Policy does **not** cover:

- 1. payment on acceleration, as a result of a call for redemption (other than mandatory sinking fund redemption) or as a result of any other advancement of maturity.
- 2. payment of any redemption, prepayment or acceleration premium.
- 3. nonpayment of principal or interest caused by the insolvency or negligence of any Trustee, Paying Agent or Bond Registrar, if any.

If it becomes necessary to call upon the Ambac Policy, payment of principal requires surrender of Ambac Insured Bonds to the Insurance Trustee together with an appropriate instrument of assignment so as to permit ownership of such Ambac Insured Bonds to be registered in the name of Ambac to the extent of the payment under the Ambac Policy. Payment of interest pursuant to the Ambac Policy requires proof of Holder entitlement to interest payments and an appropriate assignment of the Holder's right to payment to Ambac.

Upon payment of the insurance benefits, Ambac will become the owner of the Ambac Insured Bond, appurtenant coupon, if any, or right to payment of principal or interest on such Ambac Insured Bond and will be fully subrogated to the surrendering Holder's rights to payment.

Ambac Assurance Corporation

Ambac is a Wisconsin-domiciled stock insurance corporation regulated by the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance of the State of Wisconsin and licensed to do business in 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, with admitted assets of approximately \$6,993,000,000 (unaudited) and statutory capital of approximately \$4,195,000,000 (unaudited) as of September 30, 2003. Statutory capital consists of Ambac's policyholders' surplus and statutory contingency reserve. Standard & Poor's Credit Markets Services, a Division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings have each assigned a triple-A financial strength rating to Ambac.

Ambac has obtained a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service to the effect that the insuring of an obligation by Ambac will not affect the treatment for federal income tax purposes of interest on such obligation and that insurance proceeds representing maturing interest paid by Ambac under policy provisions substantially identical to those contained in its financial guaranty insurance policy shall be treated for federal income tax purposes in the same manner as if such payments were made by the Commonwealth on the Ambac Insured Bonds.

Ambac makes no representation regarding the Ambac Insured Bonds or the advisability of investing in the Ambac Insured Bonds and makes no representation regarding, nor has it participated in the preparation of, the Official Statement other than the information supplied by Ambac and presented under the heading "BOND INSURANCE" or the specimen Ambac Policy attached at Appendix D.

The parent company of Ambac, Ambac Financial Group, Inc. ("Ambac Financial"), is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and in accordance therewith files reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). These reports, proxy statements and other information can be read and copied at the SEC's public reference room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. The SEC maintains an internet site at "http://www.sec.gov" that

contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding companies that file electronically with the SEC, including Ambac Financial. These reports, proxy statements and other information can also be read at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. (the "NYSE"), 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

Copies of Ambac's financial statements prepared in accordance with statutory accounting standards are available from Ambac. The address of Ambac's administrative offices and its telephone number are One State Street Plaza, 19th Floor, New York, New York 10004 and (212) 668-0340.

The following documents filed by Ambac Financial with the SEC (File No. 1-10777) are incorporated by reference in this Official Statement:

- 1. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated January 23, 2003 and filed on January 24, 2003;
- 2. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 25, 2003 and filed on February 28, 2003;
- 3. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 25, 2003 and filed on March 4, 2003;
- 4. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 18, 2003 and filed on March 20, 2003;
- 5. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 19, 2003 and filed on March 26, 2003;
- Ambac Financial's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 and filed on March 28, 2003;
- 7. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 25, 2003 and filed on March 31, 2003;
- 8. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 17, 2003 and filed on April 21, 2003;
- 9. Ambac Financial's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarterly period ended March 31, 2003 and filed on May 15, 2003;
- 10. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 17, 2003 and filed on July 18, 2003;
- 11. Ambac Financial's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarterly period ended June 30, 2003 and filed on August 14, 2003;
- 12. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 16, 2003 and filed on October 17, 2003;
- 13. Ambac Financial's Current Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarterly period ended September 30, 2003 and filed on November 14, 2003; and
- 14. Ambac Financial's Annual Report amendment No. 1 on Form 10-K/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 and filed on November 19, 2003.

All documents subsequently filed by Ambac Financial pursuant to the requirements of the Exchange Act after the date of this Official Statement will be available for inspection in the same manner as described above.

Payment of MBIA Insured Bonds Pursuant to MBIA Policy

The following information has been furnished by MBIA for use in this Official Statement. Reference is made to Appendix D for a specimen of the MBIA Policy.

The MBIA Policy unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees the full and complete payment required to be made by or on behalf of the Commonwealth of an amount equal to (i) the principal of (either at the stated maturity or by an advancement of maturity pursuant to a mandatory sinking fund payment) and interest on, the MBIA Insured Bonds as such payments shall become due but shall not be so paid (except that in the event of any acceleration of the due date of such principal by reason of mandatory or optional redemption or acceleration resulting from default or otherwise, other

than any advancement of maturity pursuant to a mandatory sinking fund payment, the payments guaranteed by the MBIA Policy shall be made in such amounts and at such times as such payments of principal would have been due had there not been any such acceleration); and (ii) the reimbursement of any such payment which is subsequently recovered from any owner of the MBIA Insured Bonds pursuant to a final judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction that such payment constitutes an avoidable preference to such owner within the meaning of any applicable bankruptcy law (a "Preference").

The MBIA Policy does not insure against loss of any prepayment premium which may at any time be payable with respect to any MBIA Insured Bonds. The MBIA Policy does not, under any circumstance, insure against loss relating to: (i) optional or mandatory redemptions (other than mandatory sinking fund redemptions); (ii) any payments to be made on an accelerated basis; (iii) payments of the purchase price of the MBIA Insured Bonds upon tender by an owner thereof; or (iv) any Preference relating to (i) through (iii) above. The MBIA Policy also does not insure against nonpayment of principal of or interest on the MBIA Insured Bonds resulting from the insolvency, negligence or any other act or omission of the Commonwealth acting as paying agent with respect to the MBIA Insured Bonds or any other paying agent for the MBIA Insured Bonds.

Upon receipt of telephonic or telegraphic notice, such notice subsequently confirmed in writing by registered or certified mail, or upon receipt of written notice by registered or certified mail, by MBIA from the Commonwealth or any owner of a MBIA Insured Bond the payment of an insured amount for which is then due, that such required payment has not been made, MBIA on the due date of such payment or within one business day after receipt of notice of such nonpayment, whichever is later, will make a deposit of funds, in an account with U.S. Bank Trust National Association, in New York, New York, or its successor, sufficient for the payment of any such insured amounts which are then due. Upon presentment and surrender of such MBIA Insured Bonds or presentment of such other proof of ownership of the MBIA Insured Bonds, together with any appropriate instruments of assignment to evidence the assignment of MBIA as agent for such owners of the MBIA Insured Bonds in any legal proceeding related to payment of insured amounts on the MBIA Insured Bonds, such instruments being in a form satisfactory to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, U.S. Bank Trust National Association shall disburse to such owners or the Commonwealth payment of the insured amounts due on such MBIA Insured Bonds, less any amount held by the Commonwealth for the payment of such mounts and legally available therefor.

MBIA Insurance Corporation

MBIA is the principal operating subsidiary of MBIA Inc., a New York Stock Exchange listed company ("MBIA, Inc."). MBIA, Inc. is not obligated to pay the debts of or claims against MBIA. MBIA is domiciled in the State of New York and licensed to do business in and subject to regulation under the laws of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands of the United States and the Territory of Guam. MBIA has three branches, one in the Republic of France, one in the Republic of Singapore and one in the Kingdom of Spain. New York has laws prescribing minimum capital requirements, limiting classes and concentrations of investments and requiring the approval of policy rates and forms. State laws also regulate the amount of both the aggregate and individual risks that may be insured, the payment of dividends by MBIA, changes in control and transactions among affiliates. Additionally, MBIA is required to maintain contingency reserves on its liabilities in certain amounts and for certain periods of time.

MBIA does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of this Official Statement or any information or disclosure contained herein, or omitted herefrom, other than with respect to the accuracy of the information regarding the MBIA Policy and MBIA set forth under the heading "BOND INSURANCE". Additionally, MBIA makes no representation regarding the MBIA Insured Bonds or the advisability of investing in the MBIA Insured Bonds.

The MBIA Policy is not covered by the Property/Casualty Insurance Security Fund specified in Article 76 of the New York Insurance Law.

The following documents filed by MBIA, Inc. with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") are incorporated herein by reference:

(1) MBIA, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002; and

(2) MBIA Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2003.

Any documents filed by the MBIA, Inc. pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, after the date of this Official Statement and prior to the termination of the offering of the MBIA Insured Bonds offered hereby shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Official Statement and to be a part hereof. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, or contained in this Official Statement, shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Official Statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Official Statement.

MBIA, Inc. files annual, quarterly and special reports, information statements and other information with the SEC under File No. 1-9583. Copies of the SEC filings including (1) MBIA Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002, and (2) MBIA's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2003, are available (i) over the Internet at the SEC's web site at "http://www.sec.gov"; (ii) at the SEC's public reference room in Washington D.C.; (iii) over the Internet at MBIA Inc.'s web site at "http://www.mbia.com"; and (iv) at no cost, upon request to MBIA Insurance Corporation, 113 King Street, Armonk, New York 10504. The telephone number of MBIA is (914) 273-4545.

As of December 31, 2002, MBIA had admitted assets of \$9.2 billion (audited), total liabilities of \$6.0 billion (audited), and total capital and surplus of \$3.2 billion (audited) determined in accordance with statutory accounting practices prescribed or permitted by insurance regulatory authorities. As of September 30, 2003 MBIA had admitted assets of \$9.9 billion (unaudited), total liabilities of \$6.4 billion (unaudited), and total capital and surplus of \$3.5 billion (unaudited) determined in accordance with statutory accounting practices prescribed or permitted by insurance regulatory authorities.

Moody's Investors Service, Inc. rates the financial strength of MBIA "Aaa."

Standard & Poor's, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. rates the financial strength of MBIA "AAA."

Fitch Ratings rates the financial strength of MBIA "AAA."

Each rating of MBIA should be evaluated independently. The ratings reflect the respective rating agency's current assessment of the creditworthiness of MBIA and its ability to pay claims on its policies of insurance. Any further explanation as to the significance of the above ratings may be obtained only from the applicable rating agency.

The above ratings are not recommendations to buy, sell or hold the MBIA Insured Bonds, and such ratings may be subject to revision or withdrawal at any time by the rating agencies. Any downward revision or withdrawal of any of the above ratings may have an adverse effect on the market price of the MBIA Insured Bonds. MBIA does not guaranty the market price of the MBIA Insured Bonds nor does it guaranty that the ratings on the MBIA Insured Bonds will not be revised or withdrawn.

Financial Security Assurance Inc.

Concurrently with the issuance of the Bonds, FSA will issue the FSA Policy for the FSA Insured Bonds. The FSA Policy guarantees the scheduled payment of principal of and interest on the FSA Insured Bonds when due as set forth in the form of the FSA Policy included in Appendix D to this Official Statement.

The FSA Policy is not covered by any insurance security or guaranty fund established under New York, California, Connecticut or Florida insurance law.

FSA is a New York domiciled insurance company and a wholly owned subsidiary of Financial Security Assurance Holdings Ltd. ("Holdings"). Holdings is an indirect subsidiary of Dexia, S.A., a publicly held Belgian corporation. Dexia, S.A., through its bank subsidiaries, is primarily engaged in the business of public finance in France, Belgium and other European countries. No shareholder of Holdings or FSA is liable for the obligations of FSA. At September 30, 2003, FSA's total policyholders' surplus and contingency reserves were approximately \$2,021,327,000 and its total unearned premium reserve was approximately \$1,281,769,000 in accordance with statutory accounting practices. At September 30, 2003, FSA's total shareholders' equity was approximately \$2,208,123,000 and its total net unearned premium reserve was approximately \$1,098,686,000 in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

The financial statements included as exhibits to the annual and quarterly reports filed by Holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission are hereby incorporated herein by reference. Also incorporated herein by reference are any such financial statements so filed from the date of this Official Statement until the termination of the offering of the FSA Insured Bonds. Copies of materials incorporated by reference will be provided upon request to FSA: 350 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022, Attention: Communications Department (telephone: (212) 826-0100).

The FSA Policy does not protect investors against changes in market value of the FSA Insured Bonds, which market value may be impaired as a result of changes in prevailing interest rates, changes in applicable ratings or other causes. FSA makes no representation regarding the FSA Insured Bonds or the advisability of investing in the FSA Insured Bonds. FSA makes no representation regarding the Official Statement, nor has it participated in the preparation thereof, except that FSA has provided to the Commonwealth the information presented under this caption for inclusion in the Official Statement.

LITIGATION

No litigation is pending or, to the knowledge of the Attorney General, threatened against or affecting the Commonwealth seeking to restrain or enjoin the issuance, sale or delivery of the Bonds or in any way contesting or affecting the validity of the Bonds.

There are pending in courts within the Commonwealth various suits in which the Commonwealth is a defendant. In the opinion of the Attorney General, no litigation is pending or, to his knowledge, threatened which is likely to result, either individually or in the aggregate, in final judgments against the Commonwealth that would affect materially its financial condition. For a description of certain litigation affecting the Commonwealth, see the Information Statement under the heading "LEGAL MATTERS."

BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM

The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will initially be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Bond will be issued for each maturity of each series set forth on the inside cover page hereof, each in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. DTC holds securities that its participants (the "DTC Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among DTC Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between DTC Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. DTC Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC, in turn, is owned by a number of the DTC Participants and members of the National Securities Clearing Corporation, Government Securities Clearing Corporation, MBS Clearing Corporation and Emerging Markets Clearing Corporation (NSCC, GSCC, MBSCC and EMCC, respectively, also subsidiaries of DTCC), as well as by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange, LLC and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC Participant, either directly or indirectly (the "Indirect Participants"). The rules applicable to DTC and the DTC Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through DTC Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds in the records of DTC. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond (the "Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the DTC Participants' and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations of their purchase providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the DTC Participant or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds will be accomplished by entries made on the books of DTC Participants acting on behalf of the Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by DTC Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co. or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of the Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the DTC Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The DTC Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to DTC Participants, by DTC Participants to Indirect Participants and by DTC Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each DTC Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (or other such nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Bonds. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an omnibus proxy to the Commonwealth as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those DTC Participants having the Bonds credited to their accounts on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy).

THE COMMONWEALTH WILL NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATION TO THE DTC PARTICIPANTS, THE INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCURACY OF ANY RECORDS MAINTAINED BY DTC OR BY ANY DTC PARTICIPANT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT, THE PAYMENT OF OR THE PROVIDING OF NOTICE TO THE DTC PARTICIPANTS, THE INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OR WITH RESPECT TO ANY OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY DTC AS BOND OWNER.

The principal of and interest and premium, if any, on the Bonds will be paid to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC, as registered owner of the Bonds. Upon receipt of monies, DTC's practice is to credit the accounts of the DTC Participants on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on the records of DTC. Payments by DTC Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with municipal securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such DTC Participant or Indirect Participant and not DTC or the Commonwealth, subject to any statutory and regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of the principal of and interest and premium, if any, on the Bonds to DTC is the responsibility of the Commonwealth; disbursement of such payments to Beneficial Owners shall be the responsibility of DTC; and disbursement of such payments to Beneficial Owners shall be the responsibility of the DTC Participants and the Indirect Participants.

The Commonwealth cannot give any assurances that DTC Participants or others will distribute payments of principal of and interest on the Bonds paid to DTC or its nominee, as the registered owner, to the Beneficial Owners, or that they will do so on a timely basis or that DTC will serve and act in a manner described in this document.

Beneficial Owners of the Bonds will not receive or have the right to receive physical delivery of such Bonds and will not be or be considered to be the registered owners thereof. So long as Cede & Co. is the registered owner of the Bonds, as nominee of DTC, references herein to the holders or registered owners of the Bonds shall mean Cede & Co. and shall not mean the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, except as otherwise expressly provided herein. DTC may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Commonwealth. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, Bonds will be delivered and registered as designated by the Beneficial Owners. The Beneficial Owner, upon registration of Bonds held in the Beneficial Owner's name, will become the Bondowner.

The Commonwealth may decide to discontinue the use of the system of book-entry transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In such event, Bonds will be delivered and registered as designated by the Beneficial Owners.

THE INFORMATION IN THIS SECTION CONCERNING DTC AND DTC'S BOOK-ENTRY SYSTEM HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM SOURCES THAT THE COMMONWEALTH BELIEVES TO BE RELIABLE, BUT THE COMMONWEALTH TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCURACY THEREOF.

RATINGS

The Bonds, other than the Insured Bonds, have been assigned ratings by FitchRatings ("Fitch"), Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") and Standard & Poor's Ratings Services ("Standard & Poor's") of "AA-", "Aa2" and "AA-", respectively.

For the Insured Bonds, the ratings assigned by Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's are "AAA," "Aaa" and "AAA," respectively, based upon the understanding that the payment of the principal of and the interest on the Ambac Insured Bonds will be guaranteed by a financial guaranty insurance policy to be issued simultaneously with the delivery of the Ambac Insured Bonds by Ambac, that the payment of the principal of and the interest on the FSA Insured Bonds will be guaranteed by a financial guaranty insurance policy to be issued simultaneously with delivery of the FSA Insured Bonds by FSA and that the payment of the principal of and the interest on the MBIA Insured Bonds will be guaranteed by a financial guaranty insurance policy to be issued simultaneously with delivery of the FSA Insured Bonds by FSA and that the payment of the principal of and the interest on the MBIA Insured Bonds will be guaranteed by a financial guaranty insurance policy to be issued simultaneously with the delivery of the MBIA Insured Bonds by MBIA.

Such ratings reflect only the respective views of such organizations, and an explanation of the significance of such ratings may be obtained from the rating agency furnishing the same. There is no assurance that a rating will continue for any given period of time or that a rating will not be revised or withdrawn entirely by any or all of such rating agencies, if, in its or their judgment, circumstances so warrant. Any downward revision or withdrawal of a rating could have an adverse effect on the market prices of the Bonds.

UNDERWRITING

The Underwriters have agreed, subject to certain conditions, to purchase all of the Bonds from the Commonwealth at a discount from the initial offering prices of the Bonds equal to approximately 0.5160% of the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds. The Underwriters may offer and sell the Bonds to certain dealers and others (including dealers depositing Bonds into investment trusts) at prices lower than the public offering prices (or yields higher than the offering yields) stated on the inside cover page hereof. The principal offering prices (or yields) set forth on the inside cover page hereof may be changed from time to time after the initial offering by the Underwriters.

VERIFICATION OF MATHEMATICAL COMPUTATIONS

Causey Demgen & Moore Inc. will verify (a) the adequacy of the forecasted receipts of principal and interest on the Escrow Obligations and the forecasted payments of principal and interest to redeem the Refunded Bonds, and (b) the yields on the Refunding Bonds and the Escrow Obligations purchased with a portion of the proceeds of the sale of the Refunding Bonds. Such verification will be used in part by Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., Bond Counsel, in concluding that the Bonds are not arbitrage bonds within the meaning of the Code. Causey Demgen & Moore Inc. has restricted its procedures to certain computations and has not made any study or evaluation of the assumptions and information upon which the computations are based and, accordingly, has not expressed an opinion on the data used, the reasonableness of the assumptions, or the achievability of the forecasted outcome.

TAX MATTERS

Bond Counsel is of the opinion that, under existing law, interest on the Bonds will not be included in the gross income of holders of such Bonds for federal income tax purposes. This opinion is expressly conditioned upon compliance with certain requirements of the Code, which requirements must be satisfied after the date of issuance of the Bonds in order to assure that the interest on the Bonds is and continues to be excludable from the gross income of the holders of such Bonds. Failure to comply could cause the interest on the Bonds to be included in the gross income of the holders thereof, retroactive to the date of issuance of such Bonds. In particular, and without limitation, those requirements include restrictions on the use, expenditure and investment of bond proceeds and the payment of rebate, or penalties in lieu of rebate, to the United States, subject to certain exceptions. The Commonwealth has provided covenants and certificates as to its continued compliance with such requirements.

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under existing law, interest on the Bonds will not constitute a preference item under section 57(a)(5) of the Code for purposes of computation of the alternative minimum tax imposed on certain individuals and corporations under section 55 of the Code. However, interest on the Bonds will be included in "adjusted current earnings" of corporate holders of such Bonds and therefore will be taken into account under section 56(g) of the Code in the computation of the alternative minimum tax applicable to certain corporations.

Bond Counsel has not opined as to other federal tax consequences of holding the Bonds. However, prospective purchasers of such Bonds should be aware that (i) section 265 of the Code denies a deduction for interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry the Bonds or, in the case of a financial institution, that portion of a holder's interest expense allocated to such Bonds, (ii) with respect to insurance companies subject to the tax imposed by section 831 of the Code, section 832(b)(5)(B)(i) reduces the deduction for losses incurred by 15% of the sum of certain items, including interest on the Bonds, (iii) interest on the Bonds earned by certain foreign corporations doing business in the United States could be subject to a branch profits tax imposed by section 884 of the Code, (iv) passive investment income, including interest on the Bonds, may be subject to federal income taxation under section 1375 of the Code for S corporations that have accumulated earnings and profits at the close of the taxable year if greater than 25% of certain Social Security and Railroad Retirement benefits to take into account, in determining gross income, receipts or accruals of interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds and (vi) receipt of investment income, including interest on the Bonds, any disqualify the recipient thereof from obtaining the earned income credit under section 32(i) of the Code.

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, interest on the Bonds is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, and the Bonds are exempt from Massachusetts personal property taxes. Bond Counsel has not opined as to other Massachusetts tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds. Prospective purchasers should be aware, however, that the Bonds are included in the measure of Massachusetts estate and inheritance taxes, and the Bonds and the interest thereon are included in the measure of Massachusetts corporate excise and franchise taxes. Bond Counsel has not opined as to the taxability of the Bonds or the income therefrom under the laws of any state other than Massachusetts.

For federal and Massachusetts income tax purposes, interest includes original issue discount, which with respect to a Bond is equal to the excess, if any, of the stated redemption price at maturity of such Bond over the initial offering price thereof to the public, excluding underwriters and other intermediaries, at which price a substantial amount of all such Bonds with the same maturity was sold. Original issue discount accrues actuarially over the term of a Bond. Holders should consult their own tax advisers with respect to the computations of original issue during the period in which any such Bond is held.

An amount equal to the excess, if any, of the purchase price of a Bond over the principal amount payable at maturity constitutes amortizable bond premium for federal and Massachusetts tax purposes. The required amortization of such premium during the term of a Bond will result in reduction of the holder's tax basis in such Bond. Such amortization als o will result in reduction of the amount of the stated interest on the Bond taken into account as interest for tax purposes. Holders of Bonds purchased at a premium should consult their own tax advisers with respect to the determination and treatment of such premium for federal income tax purposes and with respect to state or local tax consequences of owning such Bonds.

On the date of delivery of the Bonds, the original purchasers thereof will be furnished with an opinion of Bond Counsel substantially in the forms attached hereto. See "Appendix B – Proposed Forms of Opinions of Bond Counsel."

OPINIONS OF COUNSEL

The unqualified approving opinions as to the legality of the Bonds will be rendered by Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C. of Boston, Massachusetts, Bond Counsel. The proposed forms of the opinions of Bond Counsel relating to the Bonds are attached hereto as Appendix B. Certain legal matters will also be passed upon by Ropes & Gray LLP of Boston, Massachusetts, as Disclosure Counsel. Certain legal matters will be passed on for the Underwriters by their counsel, Ropes & Gray LLP of Boston, Massachusetts.

CONTINUING DISCLOSURE

In order to assist the Underwriters in complying with paragraph (b)(5) of Rule 15c2-12, the Commonwealth will undertake in the Bonds to provide annual reports and notices of certain events. A description of this undertaking is set forth in Appendix C attached hereto.

For information concerning the availability of certain other financial information from the Commo nwealth, see the Information Statement under the heading "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE."

MISCELLANEOUS

Any provisions of the constitution of the Commonwealth, of all general and special laws and of other documents set forth or referred to in this Official Statement are only summarized, and such summaries do not purport to be complete statements of any of such provisions. Only the actual text of such provisions can be relied upon for completeness and accuracy.

All estimates and assumptions in this Official Statement have been made on the best information available and are believed to be reliable, but no representations whatsoever are made that such estimates and assumptions are correct. So far as any statements in this Official Statement involve any matters of opinion, whether or not expressly so stated, they are intended merely as such and not as representations of fact. The various tables may not add due to rounding of figures.

The information, estimates and assumptions and expressions of opinion in this Official Statement are subject to change without notice. Neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made pursuant to this Official Statement shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Commonwealth or its agencies, authorities or political subdivisions since the date of this Official Statement, except as expressly stated.

AVAILABILITY OF OTHER INFORMATION

Questions regarding this Official Statement or requests for additional financial information concerning the Commonwealth should be directed to Jeffrey S. Stearns, Deputy Treasurer, Office of the Treasurer and Receiver-General, One Ashburton Place, 12th floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, telephone 617/367-3900 or Timothy Murphy, Director of Capital Planning and Operations, Executive Office for Administration and Finance, State House, Room 272, Boston, Massachusetts 02133, telephone 617/727-2040. Questions regarding legal matters relating to this Official Statement and the Bonds should be directed to John R. Regier, Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., One Financial Center, Boston, Massachusetts 02111, telephone 617/348-1720.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

By /s/ Timothy P. Cahill

Timothy P. Cahill *Treasurer and Receiver-General*

By /s/ Eric A. Kriss

Eric A. Kriss Secretary of Administration and Finance

January 15, 2004

TABLE OF REFUNDED BONDS

The bonds of the Commonwealth to be refunded with the proceeds of the 2004 Series A Refunding Bonds are described below.

	Maturity Date	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Coupon</u>		
\$20	\$200,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 1992, Series D:				
	May 1, 2006 May 1, 2008	\$2,850,000* <u>1,390,000</u> ** \$4,240,000	8.00% 6.00		
*	Represents the portion of the outstanding \$20,525 paid at maturity in the amount of \$1,555,000 on N 2006. Of the remaining amount (\$17,675,000) of \$8,310,000 is to be paid through mandatory sinkin paid at maturity.	May 1, 2005 and in the amount of Sterm bonds with a stated maturity	\$1,295,000 on May 1, of May 1, 2006,		
**	Represents the portion of the outstanding \$11,505 paid at maturity in the amount of \$1,390,000 on M bonds with a stated maturity of May 1, 2008, \$10, redemption on May 1, 2007.	1ay 1, 2007. Of the remaining amo	ount (\$10,115,000) of term		

\$200,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 1996, Series D:

November 1, 2014*	\$28,195,000	5.00%
1,201+	\$20,175,000	5.0070

* To be redeemed on November 1, 2006 at a call price of 101%.

\$250,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 1997, Series C:

August 1, 2014* \$4,665,000	5.00%
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* Represents the portion of the outstanding \$33,500,000 serial bond which will be refunded and redeemed on August 1, 2007 at a call price of 101%. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$28,835,000) is to be paid at maturity.

\$250,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 1998, Series A:

January 1, 2009*	\$18,355,000**	4.50%
January 1, 2010*	23,600,000	4.50
-	\$41,955,000	

* To be redeemed on January 1, 2008 at a call price of 101%.

^{**} Represents the portion of the outstanding \$22,550,000 serial bond which will be refunded and redeemed on January 1, 2008 at a call price of 101%. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$4,195,000) is to be paid at maturity.

|--|

Amount

Coupon

\$250,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 1998, Series B:

April 1, 2008	\$9,115,000*	6.00%
April 1, 2015	16,620,000**	5.00
April 1, 2016	5,010,000***	5.00
	\$30,745,000	

* To be refunded and paid at maturity.

** To be redeemed on April 1, 2008 at a call price of 101%.

*** Represents the portion of the outstanding \$17,450,000 serial bond which will be refunded and redeemed on April 1, 2008 at a call price of 101%. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$12,440,000) is to be paid at maturity.

\$500,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 1998, Series C:

August 1, 2010*	\$5,000,000	4.60%
August 1, 2016*	20,000,000	5.25
	\$25,000,000	

* To be redeemed on August 1, 2008 at a call price of 101%.

\$250,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 1999, Series B:

May 1, 2008*	\$11,115,000	4.375%
May 1, 2016**	<u>16,340,000</u>	5.000
-	\$27,455,000	

* To be refunded and paid at maturity.

** To be redeemed on May 1, 2009 at a call price of 101%.

\$496,305,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2000, Series A:

February 1, 2008*	\$11,685,000	5.75%
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* Represents the portion of the outstanding \$15,365,000 serial bond which will be refunded and paid at maturity. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$3,680,000) is to be paid at maturity.

\$740,305,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2000, Series B:

June 1, 2008*	\$11,910,000	5.05%
June 1, 2008*	<u>1,910,000</u>	5.50
	\$13,820,000	

* To be refunded and paid at maturity.

	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Coupon</u>
\$50	63,735,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolid	ated Loan of 2000, Series (C:
	October 1, 2020*	\$26,275,000	5.25%
	October 1, 2020*	4,270,000	5.40
	October 1, 2021*	13,885,000	5.50
	October 1, 2022*	<u>6,135,000</u> \$50,565,000	5.50
*	To be redeemed on October 1, 2010 at par.		
\$2:	50,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolid	lated Loan of 2001, Series A	A:
	January 1, 2019*	\$19,115,000	5.25%
*	To be redeemed on January 1, 2011 at par.		
\$9 .	35,530,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolid	lated Loan of 2001, Series (C:
	December 1, 2020*	\$31,360,000	5.125%
*	Represents the portion of the outstanding \$44,295,00 December 1, 2011 at par. Unless otherwise redeemed amount (\$12,935,000) is to be paid at maturity.		
\$8 2	23,845,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolid	ated Loan of 2001, Series I	D:
	November 1, 2019*	\$25,000,000	5.25%
	November 1, 2019*	10,115,000	5.25
		\$35,115,000	
*	To be redeemed on November 1, 2011 at par.		
\$2 :	50,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolid	ated Loan of 2002, Series A	A:
	January 1, 2012*	\$35,000,000	4.125%
*	To be redeemed on January 1, 2009 at par.		
\$4	92,440,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolid	ated Loan of 2002. Series I	۲.
Ψ Γ .			
	March 1, 2021* March 1, 2022*	\$35,105,000	5.25%
	Viarch L. ZUZZ*	<u>10,000,000</u>	5.25
		\$45,105,000	

	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Coupon</u>
\$1,828,230,000 General Ob	ligation Bonds, Consolid	lated Loan of 2002, Serie	es C:

November 1, 2030*	\$227,315,000	5.25%
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* Represents the portion of the outstanding \$352,920,000 November 1, 2030 term bond which will be refunded and redeemed on November 1, 2012 at par in the amount of \$110,375,000 on November 1, 2029 and in the amount of \$116,940,000 on November 1, 2030. Of the remaining amount (\$125,605,000) of term bonds with a stated maturity of November 1, 2030, \$21,455,000 is to be paid through mandatory sinking fund redemption on November 1, 2027 and \$104,150,000 is to be paid through mandatory sinking fund redemption on November 1, 2028.

\$670,745,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2002, Series D:

August 1, 2021*	\$41,995,000	5.375%
August 1, 2022**	<u>54,530,000</u>	5.375
-	\$96,525,000	

* To be redeemed on August 1, 2012 at par.

* Represents the portion of the outstanding \$56,920,000 serial bond which will be refunded and redeemed on August 1, 2012 at par. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$2,390,000) is to be paid at maturity.

\$734,350,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2002, Series E:

January 1, 2014*	\$17,435,000	4.00%
January 1, 2021*	6,500,000	5.25
January 1, 2022**	10,025,000	5.25
	\$33,960,000	

* To be redeemed on January 1, 2013 at par.

** Represents the portion of the outstanding \$40,000,000 serial bond which will be refunded and redeemed on January 1, 2013 at par. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$29,975,000) is to be paid at maturity.

\$288,745,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2003, Series A:

January 1, 2014* \$4,150,000 3.90%

^{*} Represents the portion of the outstanding \$9,595,000 serial bond which will be refunded and redeemed on January 1, 2013 at par. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$5,445,000) is to be paid at maturity.

	Maturity Date	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Coupon</u>		
\$18	\$185,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2003, Series B:				
	August 1, 2008*	\$42,455,000	4.00%		
*	Represents the portion of the outstanding \$42,500,00				

Represents the portion of the outstanding \$42,500,000 serial bond which will be refunded and paid at maturity. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$45,000) is to be paid at maturity.

\$290,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2003, Series C:

 Represents the portion of the outstanding \$45,000,000 serial bond which will be refunded and redeemed on August 1, 2013 at par. Unless otherwise redeemed earlier in accordance with its terms, the remaining amount (\$40,005,000) is to be paid at maturity.

\$271,310,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2003, Series D:

October 1, 2020*	\$48,265,000	5.25%
October 1, 2021*	<u>50,865,000</u>	5.25
	\$99,130,000	

* To be redeemed on October 1, 2013 at par.

PROPOSED FORMS OF OPINIONS OF BOND COUNSEL

Upon the delivery of the Bonds, Bond Counsel proposes to deliver to the Underwriters opinions in substantially the following forms:



Boston Washington Reston New York New Haven Los Angeles London

One Financial Center Boston, Massachusetts 02111 617 542 6000 617 542 2241 fax www.mintz.com

[To the Underwriters]

We have acted as bond counsel to The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "Commonwealth") in connection with the issuance by the Commonwealth of \$290,920,000 General Obligation Bonds, Consolidated Loan of 2004, Series A, dated the date of delivery (the "Series A Bonds"). In such capacity, we have examined such law and such certified proceedings and other documents as we have deemed necessary to render this opinion.

As to questions of fact material to our opinion, we have relied upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials and others furnished to us without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that, under existing law:

(a) The Series A Bonds are valid and binding general obligations of the Commonwealth, and the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Series A Bonds. It should be noted, however, that Chapter 62F of the Massachusetts General Laws establishes a state tax revenue growth limit and does not exclude principal and interest payments on Commonwealth debt obligations from the scope of the limit. It should further be noted that Chapter 29, Section 60B, of the Massachusetts General Laws imposes an annual limitation on the percentage of total appropriations that may be expended for payment of interest and principal on general obligation debt of the Commonwealth.

(b) Interest on the Series A Bonds will not be included in the gross income of the holders of the Series A Bonds for federal income tax purposes. This opinion is rendered subject to the condition that the Commonwealth comply with certain requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which must be satisfied subsequent to the issuance of the Series A Bonds in order that interest thereon is and continues to be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Failure to comply with certain of such requirements could cause interest on the Series A Bonds to be included in the gross income of holders of the Series A Bonds retroactive to the date of issuance of the Series A Bonds. While interest on the Series A Bonds will not constitute a preference item for purposes of computation of the alternative minimum tax imposed on certain individuals and corporations, interest on the Series A Bonds will be included in the "adjusted current earnings" of corporate holders of the Series A Bonds and therefore will be taken into account in the computation of the alternative minimum tax applicable to

certain corporations. We express no opinion as to other federal tax consequences resulting from holding the Series A Bonds.

(c) Interest on the Series A Bonds is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, and the Series A Bonds are exempt from Massachusetts personal property taxes. We express no opinion as to other Massachusetts tax consequences arising with respect to the Series A Bonds nor as to the taxability of the Series A Bonds or the income therefrom under the laws of any state other than Massachusetts.

(d) For federal and Massachusetts tax purposes, interest includes original issue discount. Original issue discount with respect to the Series A Bonds is equal to the excess, if any, of the stated redemption price at maturity of such Series A Bonds over the initial offering price thereof to the public, excluding underwriters and other intermediaries, at which price a substantial amount of all Series A Bonds with the same maturity were sold. Original issue discount accrues actuarially over the term of the Series A Bonds. Holders should consult their own tax advisers with respect to the computation of original issue discount on such accruals of interest during the period in which any such Series A Bond is held.

This opinion is given as of the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to revise or supplement this opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to our attention or any changes in law that may hereafter occur.

Very truly yours,

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.



Boston Washington Reston New York New Haven Los Angeles London

One Financial Center Boston, Massachusetts 02111 617 542 6000 617 542 2241 fax www.mintz.com

[To the Underwriters]

We have acted as bond counsel to The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the "Commonwealth") in connection with the issuance by the Commonwealth of \$882,975,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, 2004 Series A, dated the date of delivery (the "Series A Refunding Bonds"). In such capacity, we have examined such law and such certified proceedings and other documents as we have deemed necessary to render this opinion.

As to questions of fact material to our opinion, we have relied upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials and others furnished to us without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that, under existing law:

(a) The Series A Refunding Bonds are valid and binding general obligations of the Commonwealth, and the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Series A Refunding Bonds. It should be noted, however, that Chapter 62F of the Massachusetts General Laws establishes a state tax revenue growth limit and does not exclude principal and interest payments on Commonwealth debt obligations from the scope of the limit. It should further be noted that Chapter 29, Section 60B, of the Massachusetts General Laws imposes an annual limitation on the percentage of total appropriations that may be expended for payment of interest and principal on general obligation debt of the Commonwealth.

(b) Interest on the Series A Refunding Bonds will not be included in the gross income of the holders of the Series A Refunding Bonds for federal income tax purposes. This opinion is rendered subject to the condition that the Commonwealth comply with certain requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which must be satisfied subsequent to the issuance of the Series A Refunding Bonds in order that interest thereon is and continues to be excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Failure to comply with certain of such requirements could cause interest on the Series A Refunding Bonds to be included in the gross income of holders of the Series A Refunding Bonds retroactive to the date of issuance of the Series A Refunding Bonds. While interest on the Series A Refunding Bonds will not constitute a preference item for purposes of computation of the alternative minimum tax imposed on certain individuals and corporations, interest on the Series A Refunding Bonds and therefore will be taken into account in the computation of the alternative minimum tax applicable to certain corporations. We express no opinion as to other federal tax consequences resulting from holding the Series A Refunding Bonds.

(c) Interest on the Series A Refunding Bonds is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, and the Series A Refunding Bonds are exempt from Massachusetts personal property taxes. We express no opinion as to other Massachusetts tax consequences arising with respect to the Series A Refunding Bonds nor as to the taxability of the Series A Refunding Bonds or the income therefrom under the laws of any state other than Massachusetts.

(d) For federal and Massachusetts tax purposes, interest includes original issue discount. Original issue discount with respect to the Series A Refunding Bonds is equal to the excess, if any, of the stated redemption price at

maturity of such Series A Refunding Bonds over the initial offering price thereof to the public, excluding underwriters and other intermediaries, at which price a substantial amount of all Series A Refunding Bonds with the same maturity were sold. Original issue discount accrues actuarially over the term of the Series A Refunding Bonds. Holders should consult their own tax advisers with respect to the computation of original issue discount on such accruals of interest during the period in which any such Series A Refunding Bond is held.

This opinion is given as of the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to revise or supplement this opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to our attention or any changes in law that may hereafter occur.

Very truly yours,

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

General Obligation Bonds Consolidated Loan of 2004, Series A

General Obligation Refunding Bonds 2004 Series A

Continuing Disclosure Undertaking [to be included in bond form]

On behalf of the Commonwealth, the Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth hereby undertakes for the benefit of the owners of the Bonds to provide to each nationally recognized municipal securities information repository (each, a "NRMSIR") within the meaning of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") and to the state information depository for the Commonwealth, if any (the "SID"), within the meaning of the Rule, no later than 270 days after the end of each fiscal year of the Commonwealth, (i) the annual financial information described below relating to such fiscal year, together with audited financial statements of the Commonwealth for such fiscal year if audited financial statements are then available, provided, however, that if audited financial statements of the Commonwealth are not then available, such audited financial statements shall be delivered to each NRMSIR and the SID when they become available (but in no event later than 350 days after the end of such fiscal year) or (ii) notice of the Commonwealth's failure, if any, to provide any such information. The annual financial information to be provided as aforesaid shall include financial information and operating data, in each case updated through the last day of such fiscal year unless otherwise noted, relating to the following information contained in the Commonwealth's Information Statement dated September 18, 2003 (the "Information Statement"), as it appears as Appendix A in the Official Statement dated September 18, 2003 of the Commonwealth with respect to its \$550,000,000 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes, 2003 Series A, and substantially in the same level of detail as is found in the referenced section of the Information Statement:

Financial Information and Operating Data Category		Reference to Information Statement for Level of Detail
1.	Summary presentation on statutory accounting and five-year comparative basis of selected budgeted operating funds operations, concluding with prior fiscal year, plus estimates for current fiscal year	"DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITIONS AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS - Selected Financial Data - Statutory Basis"
2.	Summary presentation on GAAP and five-year comparative basis of selected budgeted operating funds operations, concluding with prior fiscal year	"COMMONWEALTH BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CONTROLS - Selected Financial Data - GAAP Basis"
3.	Summary presentation of actual revenues in budgeted operating funds on five-year comparative basis, concluding with prior fiscal year, plus estimates for current fiscal year	"COMMONWEALTH REVENUES - Statutory Basis Distribution of Revenues"
4.	So long as Commonwealth statutes impose limits on tax revenues, information as to compliance therewith in the prior fiscal year	"COMMONWEALTH REVENUES - Limitations on Tax Revenues"
5.	Summary presentation of budgeted expenditures by selected, then-current major categories on five-year comparative basis and estimated expenditures for current fiscal year	"COMMONWEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES"
6.	Summary presentation of the then-current, statutorily imposed funding schedule for future Commonwealth pension liabilities, if any	"COMMONWEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES - Commonwealth Pension Obligations"

Financial Information and Operating Data Category		Reference to Information Statement for Level of Detail
7.	If and to the extent otherwise updated in the prior fiscal year, summary presentation of the size of the state workforce	"STATE WORKFORCE"
8.	Five-year summary presentation of actual capital project expenditures	"COMMONWEALTH CAPITAL ASSET INVESTMENT PLAN - Capital Investment Plan"
9.	Statement of Commonwealth debt and debt related to general obligation contract liabilities as of the end of the prior fiscal year	"LONG-TERM LIABILITIES - General Authority to Borrow - Commonwealth Debt and Debt Related to General Obligation Contract Assistance Liabilities"
10.	Five-year comparative presentation of long term Commonwealth debt and debt related to general obligation contract liabilities as of the end of the prior fiscal year	"LONG-TERM LIABILITIES - General Authority to Borrow - Commonwealth Debt and Debt Related to General Obligation Contract Assistance Liabilities"
11.	Annual fiscal year debt service requirements for Commonwealth general obligation and special obligation bonds, beginning with the current fiscal year	"LONG-TERM LIABILITIES - Debt Service Requirements on Commonwealth Bonds"
12.	Annual fiscal year contract assistance requirements for Commonwealth general obligation contract assistance, beginning with the current fiscal year	"LONG-TERM LIABILITIES - General Obligation Contract Assistance Liabilities"
13.	Annual fiscal year budgetary contractual assistance liabilities for Commonwealth, beginning with the current fiscal year	"LONG-TERM LIABILITIES - Budgetary Contractual Assistance Liabilities"
14.	Five-year summary presentation of authorized but unissued general obligation debt	"LONG-TERM LIABILITIES - Authorized But Unissued Debt"
15.	So long as Commonwealth statutes impose a limit on the amount of outstanding "direct" bonds, information as to compliance therewith as of the end of the prior fiscal year	"LONG-TERM LIABILITIES - General Authority to Borrow-Statutory Limit on Direct Debt"

Any or all of the items listed above may be included by reference to other documents, including official statements pertaining to debt issued by the Commonwealth, which have been submitted to each NRMSIR. If the document incorporated by reference is a Final Official Statement within the meaning of the Rule, it will also be available from the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB"). The Commonwealth's annual financial statements for each fiscal year shall consist of (i) combined financial statements prepared in accordance with a basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the Massachusetts General Laws and other applicable state finance laws, if any, in effect from time to time and (ii) general purpose financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in effect from time to time. Such financial statements shall be audited by a firm of certified public accountants appointed by the Commonwealth.

On behalf of the Commonwealth, the Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth hereby further undertakes for the benefit of the owners of the Bonds to provide in a timely manner to the MSRB and to the SID notice of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds (numbered in accordance with the provisions of the Rule), if material:

- (i) principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (ii) non-payment related defaults;
- (iii) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties 1/;
- (iv) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (v) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- (vi) adverse tax opinions or events affecting the tax-exempt status of the security;
- (vii) modifications to the rights of security holders;
- (viii) bond calls;
- (ix) defeasances;
- (x) release, substitution or sale of property securing repayment of the securities2/ and
- (xi) rating changes.

Nothing herein shall preclude the Commonwealth from disseminating any information in addition to that required hereunder. If the Commonwealth disseminates any such additional information, nothing herein shall obligate the Commonwealth to update such information or include it in any future materials disseminated.

To the extent permitted by law, the foregoing provisions of this Bond related to the above-described undertakings to provide information shall be enforceable against the Commonwealth in accordance with the terms thereof by any owner of a Bond, including any beneficial owner acting as a third-party beneficiary (upon proof of its status as a beneficial owner reasonably satisfactory to the Treasurer and Receiver-General). To the extent permitted by law, any such owner shall have the right, for the equal benefit and protection of all owners of Bonds, by mandamus or other suit or proceeding at law or in equity, to enforce its rights against the Commonwealth and to compel the Commonwealth and any of its officers, agents or employees to perform and carry out their duties under the foregoing provisions as aforesaid, provided, however, that the sole remedy in connection with such undertakings shall be limited to an action to compel specific performance of the obligations of the Commonwealth in connection with such undertakings and shall not include any rights to monetary damages. The Commonwealth's obligations in respect of such undertakings shall terminate if no Bonds remain outstanding (without regard to an economic defeasance) or if the provisions of the Rule concerning continuing disclosure are no longer effective, whichever occurs first. The provisions of this Bond relating to such undertakings may be amended by the Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth, without the consent of, or notice to, any owners of the Bonds, (a) to comply with or conform to the provisions of the Rule or any amendments thereto or authoritative interpretations thereof by the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff (whether required or optional), (b) to add a dissemination agent for the information required to be provided by such undertakings and to make any necessary or desirable provisions with respect thereto, (c) to add to the covenants of the Commonwealth for the benefit of the owners of Bonds, (d) to modify the contents, presentation and format of the annual financial information from time to time as a result of a change in circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, or (e) to otherwise modify the undertakings in a manner consistent with the provisions of state legislation establishing the SID or otherwise responding to the requirements of the Rule concerning continuing disclosure; provided, however, that in the case of any amendment pursuant to clause (d) or (e), (i) the undertaking, as amended, would have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the offering of

^{1/}Not applicable to the Bonds, since there is no debt service reserve fund securing the Bonds.

^{2/}Not applicable to the Bonds, since there is no property securing repayment of the Bonds that could be released, substituted or sold.

the Bonds, after taking into account any amendments or authoritative interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances, and (ii) the amendment does not materially impair the interests of the owners of the Bonds, as determined either by a party unaffiliated with the Commonwealth (such as Commonwealth disclosure counsel or Commonwealth bond counsel) or by the vote or consent of owners of a majority in outstanding principal amount of the Bonds affected thereby at or prior to the time of such amendment. Ambac

Financial Guaranty Insurance Policy

Obligor:

Ambac Assurance Corporation One State Street Plaza, 15th Floor New York, New York 10004 Telephone: (212) 668-0340

Policy Number:

Premium:

Obligations:

Ambac Assurance Corporation (Ambac), a Wisconsin stock insurance corporation, in consideration of the payment of the premium and subject to the terms of this Policy, hereby agrees to pay to The Bank of New York, as trustee, or its successor (the "Insurance Trustee"), for the benefit of the Holders, that portion of the principal of and interest on the above-described obligations (the "Obligations") which shall become Due for Payment but shall be unpaid by reason of Nonpayment by the Obligon

Ambac will make such payments to the Insurance Trustee within one (1) business day following written notification to Ambac of Nonpayment. Upon a Holder's presentation and surrender to the Insurance Trustee of such unpaid Obligations or related coopons, uncanceled and in bearer form and free of any adverse claim, the Insurance Trustee will disburse to the Holder the amount of principal and interest which is then Due for Payment but is unpaid. Upon such disbursement, Ambac shall become the owner of the surrendered Obligations and/or coupons and shall be fully subrogated to all of the Holder's rights to payment thereon.

In cases where the Obligations are issued in registered form, the Insurance Trustee shall disburse principal to a Holder only upon presentation and surrender to the Insurance Trustee of the unpaid Obligation, uncanceled and free of any adverse claim, together with an instrument of assignment, in form satisfactory to Ambac and the Insurance Trustee duly executed by the Holder or such Holder's duly authorized representative, so as to permit ownership of such Obligation to be registered in the name of Ambac or its nominee. The Insurance Trustee shall disburse interest to a Holder of a begistered Obligation only upon presentation to the Insurance Trustee of proof that the claimant is the person entitled to the payment of interest on the Obligation and delivery to the Insurance Trustee of an instrument of assignment, in form satisfactory to Ambac and the Insurance Trustee, duly executed by the Holder or such Holder's duly authorized representative, transferring to Ambac and the Insurance Trustee, duly executed by the interest in respect of which the insurance disbursement was made. Ambac shall be subrogated to all of the Holders' rights to payment on registered Obligations to the extent of any insurance disbursements of made.

In the event that a trustee or paying agent for the Obligations has notice that any payment of principal of or interest on an Obligation which has become Due for Payment and which is made to a Holder by or on behalf of the Obligor has been deemed a preferential transfer and theretofore recovered from the Nolder pursuant to the United States Bankruptcy Code in accordance with a final, nonappealable order of a court of competent jurisdiction, such Holder will be entitled to payment from Ambac to the extent of such recovery if sufficient funds are not otherwise available.

As used herein, the term "Floiden" means any person other than (i) the Obligor or (ii) any person whose obligations constitute the underlying security or source of payment for the Obligations who, at the time of Nonpayment, is the owner of an Obligation or of a coupon relating to an Obligation. As used herein, "Due for Payment", when referring to the principal of Obligations, is when the scheduled maturity date or mandatory redemption date for the application of a required sinking fund installment has been reached and does not refer to any earlier date on which payment is due by reason of call for redemption (other than by application of required sinking fund installments), acceleration or other advancement of maturity; and, when referring to interest on the Obligations, is when the scheduled date for payment of interest has been reached. As used herein, "Nonpayment" means the failure of the Obligations when the scheduled sufficient funds to the trustee or paying agent for payment in full of all principal of and interest on the Obligations which are Due for Payment.

This Policy is noncancelable. The premium on this Policy is not refundable for any reason, including payment of the Obligations prior to maturity. This Policy does not insure against loss of any prepayment or other acceleration payment which at any time may become due in respect of any Obligation, other than at the sole option of Ambac, nor against any risk other than Nonpayment.

In witness whereof, Ambac has caused this Policy to be affixed with a facsimile of its corporate seal and to be signed by its duly authorized officers in facsimile to become effective as its original seal and signatures and binding upon Ambac by virtue of the countersignature of its duly authorized representative.

Jenada

President

Effective Date:

THE BANK OF NEW YORK acknowledges that it has agreed to perform the duties of Insurance Trustee under this Policy. Form No.: 2B-0012 (1/01)



Unne G. Gill Secretary

Authorized Representative

Itacaa

Authorized Officer of Insurance Trustee

FINANCIAL GUARANTY INSURANCE POLICY

MBIA Insurance Corporation Armonk, New York 10504

Policy No. [NUMBER]

MBIA Insurance Corporation (the "Insurer"), in consideration of the payment of the premium and subject to the terms of this policy, hereby unconditionally and irrevocably guarantees to any owner, as hereinafter defined, of the following described obligations, the full and complete payment required to be made by or on behalf of the Issuer to [PAYING AGENT/TRUSTEE] or its successor (the "Paying Agent") of an amount equal to (i) the principal of (either at the stated maturity or by any advancement of maturity pursuant to a mandatory sinking fund payment) and interest on, the Obligations (as that term is defined below) as such payments shall become due but shall not be so paid (except that in the event of any acceleration of the due date of such principal by reason of mandatory or optional redemption or acceleration resulting from default or otherwise, other than any advancement of maturity pursuant to a mandatory sinking fund payment, the payments guaranteed hereby shall be made in such amounts and at such times as such payments of principal would have been due had there not been any such acceleration); and (ii) the reimbursement of any such payment which is subsequently recovered from any owner pursuant to a final judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction that such payment constitutes an avoidable preference to such owner within the meaning of any applicable bankruptcy law. The amounts referred to in clauses (i) and (ii) of the preceding sentence shall be referred to herein collectively as the "Insured Amounts." "Obligations" shall mean:

[PAR]

[LEGAL NAME OF ISSUE]

Upon receipt of telephonic or telegraphic notice, such notice subsequently confirmed in writing by registered or certified mail, or upon receipt of written notice by registered or certified mail, by the Insurer from the Paying Agent or any owner of an Obligation the payment of an Insured Amount for which is then due, that such required payment has not been made, the Insurer on the due date of such payment or within one business day after receipt of notice of such nonpayment, whichever is later, will make a deposit of funds, in an account with U.S. Bank Trust National Association, in New York, New York, or its successor, sufficient for the payment of any such Insured Amounts which are then due. Upon presentment and surrender of such Obligations or presentment of such other proof of ownership of the Obligations, together with any appropriate instruments of assignment to evidence the assignment of the Insured Amounts due on the Obligations as are paid by the Insurer, and appropriate instruments to effect the appointment of the Insurer as agent for such owners of the Obligations in any legal proceeding related to payment of Insured Amounts on the Obligations, such instruments being in a form satisfactory to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, U.S. Bank Trust National Association shall disburse to such owners, or the Paying Agent payment of the Insured Amounts due on such Obligations, less any amount held by the Paying Agent for the payment of such Insured Amounts and legally available therefor. This policy does not insure against loss of any prepayment premium which may at any time be payable with respect to any Obligation.

As used herein, the term "owner" shall mean the registered owner of any Obligation as indicated in the books maintained by the Paying Agent, the Issuer, or any designee of the Issuer for such purpose. The term owner shall not include the Issuer or any party whose agreement with the Issuer constitutes the underlying security for the Obligations.

Any service of process on the Insurer may be made to the Insurer at its offices located at 113 King Street, Armonk, New York 10504 and such service of process shall be valid and binding.

This policy is non-cancellable for any reason. The premium on this policy is not refundable for any reason including the payment prior to maturity of the Obligations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Insurer has caused this policy to be executed in facsimile on its behalf by its duly authorized officers, this [DAY] day of [MONTH, YEAR].



Attest:

Assistant Secretary

STD-R-6 4/95

FINANCIAL SECURITY ASSURANCE®

MUNICIPAL BOND

Policy No.: -N Effective Date:

Fremium

ISSUER:

BONDS:

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FINANCIAL SECURITY ASSURANCE INC. ("Financial Security.), for consideration received, hereby UNCONDITIONALLY AND IRREVOCABLY agrees to pay to the trustee the "Trustee") or paying agent (the "Paying Agent") (as set forth in the documentation providing for the issuance of and security to each Owner, subject only to the terms of this Policy (which includes each endorsement hereto, that portion of the principal of and interest on the Bonds that shall become Due for Payment but shall be unpaid by reason of Nonpayment by the issuer.

On the later of the day on which such principal and interest becomes Due for Payment or the Business Day next following the Business Day on which Financial Security shall have received Notice of Nonpayment, Pinancial Security will disburse to or for the benefit of each Owner of a Bong the face amount of principal of and interest on the Bond that is then Due for Payment but is then unpad by reason of Nonpayment by the Issuer, but only upon receipt by Financial Security, in a form reasonably satisfactory to it of (a) evidence of the Owner's right to receive payment or ne principal pr interest then Due for Payment and (b) evidence, including any appropriate instruments of assignment, that and of the Owner's right swith respect to payment of Nonpayment will be deemed received print and (b) evidence, including any appropriate instruments of a signment, that and of the Owner's rights with respect to payment of Nonpayment will be deemed received of a given Business Day if it is received prior to 1:00 pim (New York time) on such Business Day; therwise it will be deemed received on the next Business Day. If any Notice of Nonpayment, Upon disbursement, in respect of a Bond, Financial Security shall be ecomether owner of the Bond, any appropriate received by Financial Security is incomplete, it shall be ecomether owner of the Bond, any appropriate received by Financial Security shall be comether owner of the Bond, any appropriate received by Financial Security is incomplete, it scales become the owner of the Bond, any appurtence and construction of a Bond, Financial Security shall be comether owner of the Bond, any appurtence and point of the Bond or right to receipt of payment of ornicipal or interest on the Bond and shall be fully subrogated to the rights of the Owner, including the Owner's right to receive payment upper the and construction of an one receipt of a Bond, Financial Security shall be comether owner of the Bond, any appurtence or one paying Agent for the benefit of the Owner's right to receipt of payment of

Except to the extent expressly modified by an endorsement hereto, the following terms shall have the meanings specified for all purposes of this Policy. "Business Day" means any day other than (a) a Saturday of Sunday or (b) a day on which banking institutions in the State of New York or the Insurer's Fiscal Agent are authorized or required by law or executive order to remain closed. "Due for Payment" means (a) when referring to the principal of a Bond, payable on the stated maturity date thereof or the date on which the same shall have been duly called for mandatory sinking fund redemption and does not refer to any earlier date on which payment is due by reason of call for redemption (other than by mandatory sinking fund redemption), acceleration or other advancement of maturity unless Financial Security shall elect, in its sole discretion, to pay such principal due upon such acceleration together with any accrued interest to the date of acceleration and (b) when referring to interest on a Bond, payable on the stated date for payment or interest. "Nonpayment" means, in respect of a Bond, the failure of the Issuer to have provided sufficient funds to the Trustee or, if there is no Trustee, to the Paying Agent for payment in full of all principal and interest that is Due for Payment on such Bond. "Nonpayment" shall also include, in respect of a Bond, any payment of principal or interest that is Due for Payment made to an Owner by or on behalf of the Issuer which has been recovered from such Owner pursuant to the

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United States Bankruptcy Code by a trustee in bankruptcy in accordance with a final; nonappealable order of a court having competent jurisdiction. "Notice" means telephonic or telecopied notice, subsequently confirmed in a signed writing, or written notice by registered or certified nail, from an Owner, the Trustee or the Paying Agent to Financial Security which notice shall specify (a) the person or entity making the claim, (b) the Policy Number, (c) the claimed amount and (d) the date such claimed amount became Due for Payment. "Owner" means, in respect of a Bond, the person or entity who, at he time of Nonpayment, is entitled under the terms of such Bond to payment thereof, except that "Owner" shall not include the Issuer or any person or entity whose direct or indirect obligation constitutes the underlying security for the Bonds.

Financial Security may appoint a fiecal agent (the "Insurens Fiscal Agent") for purposes of this Policy by giving written notice to the Trustee and the Paying Agent specifying the name and notice address of the Insurer's Fiscal Agent. From and after the date of receiver of such notice by the Trustee and the Paying Agent, (a) copies of all notices required to be cellivered to Financial Security pursuant to this Policy shall be simultaneously delivered by both and (b) all payments required to be made by Financial Security under this Policy may be made directly by financial Security or by the Insurer's Fiscal Agent on behalf of Financial Security. The Insurer's Fiscal Agent is the agent of Financial Security only and the Insurer's Fiscal Agent shall in no event be liable to any Owner for any fact of the number's Fiscal Agent or any failure of Financial Security to deposit or cause to be deposited sufficient funds to make payments due under this Policy.

To the fullest exterit permitted by applicable law. Financial Security agrees not to assert, and hereby waives, only for the benefit of each Owner, all rights (whether by counterclaim, setoff or otherwise) and defenses (including, without limitation, the defense of raud, whether acquired by subrogation, assignment or otherwise, to the exterit that such rights and defenses may be available to Financial Security to avoid payment of its obligations under this Holicy in accordance with the express provisions of this Policy.

This Policy sets forth in full the undertaking of Financial Security, and shall not be modified, altered of affected by any other agreement of instrument, including any modification or amendment thereto. Except to the extent expressly medified by an endorsement hereto, (a) any premium paid in respect of this Holicy is nonrefundable for any reason whatsoever, including payment, or provision being mide for payment, of the Bonds prior to maturity and (b) this Policy may not be canceled or revoked. THIS POLICY IS NOT COVERED BY THE PROPERTY CASUALTY INSURANCE SECURITY FUND SPECIFIED IN ARTICLE T6 OF THE NEW YORK INSURANCE LAW.

In witness whereoff FINANCIAL SECURITY ASSURANCE INC. has caused this Policy to be executed on its behalf by its Authorized Officer.

By ___

[Oountersgnature]

FINANCIAL SECURITY ASSURANCE INC.

Authorized Officer

A subsidiary of Financial Security Assurance Holdings Ltd. 350 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022-6022

(212) 826-0100

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