§ 2589. Tax exemption and tax contract by the state. 1. It is hereby determined that the creation of the authority and the carrying out of its corporate purposes are in all respects for the benefit of the people of the state of New York and are public purposes. Accordingly, the authority shall be regarded as performing an essential governmental function in the exercise of the powers conferred upon it by this title. The property of the authority, its income and its operations shall be exempt from taxation, assessments, special assessments and ad valorem levies. The authority shall not be required to pay any fees, taxes, special ad valorem levies or assessments of any kind, whether state or local, including, but not limited to, fees, taxes, special ad valorem levies or assessments on real property, franchise taxes, sales taxes or other taxes, upon or with respect to any property owned by it or under its jurisdiction, control or supervision, or upon the uses thereof, or upon or with respect to its activities or operations in furtherance of the powers conferred upon it by this title, or upon or with respect to any fares, tolls, rentals, rates, charges, fees, revenues or other income received by the authority.

2. Any bonds issued pursuant to this title, their transfer and the income therefrom shall, at all times, be exempt from taxation.

3. The state hereby covenants with the purchasers and with all subsequent holders and transferees of bonds issued by the authority pursuant to this title, in consideration of the acceptance of and payment for the bonds, that the bonds of the authority issued pursuant to this title and the income therefrom and all revenues, moneys, and other property pledged to pay or to secure the payment of such bonds shall at all times be exempt from taxation.

4. Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the authority shall be required to pay water and sewer fees or charges imposed by any public corporation.

5. The foregoing shall not, however, limit the county from receiving rentals, fees or other consideration pursuant to agreements negotiated with the authority.