
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1057

Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY REED, GIAMMARCO, ZITTERMAN, BROWN, ZWIKL, WISE,
BORSKI AND JONES, APRIL 27, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 27, 1977

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Tricentennial Commission of Pennsylvania,
2 providing for the powers and duties of the commission, and
3 making an appropriation.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the
8 "Tricentennial Commission Act."

9 Section 2. Legislative findings; declaration of policy.

10 It is hereby determined and declared as a matter of
11 legislative finding:

12 (1) The tricentennial of the founding of the
13 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania occurs in 1981.

14 (2) No other state has furnished as many leaders or
15 played as dominant a role in the development of our national
16 heritage, individual liberty and representative government.

17 (3) Pennsylvania, birthplace of our liberty, should take
18 steps to encourage historical preservation and restoration,

1 the recreation of events and remembrances of our historic
2 beginning, and the promotion of international and national
3 tourism designed to highlight the heritage and contributions
4 of Pennsylvania to the Nation.

5 Section 3. Establishment of commission; membership; vacancies.

6 (a) There is hereby established the Tricentennial Commission
7 of Pennsylvania, hereafter referred to as the commission, to
8 plan and develop Pennsylvania's participation in the
9 commemoration of the founding of this Commonwealth.

10 (b) The commission shall be composed of the following:

11 (1) Five members of the State Senate to be appointed by
12 the President pro tempore of the Senate.

13 (2) Five members of the House Representatives to be
14 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

15 (3) The Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of Commerce,
16 Secretary of Environmental Resources, the Chairman of the
17 Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and the
18 Secretary of the Commonwealth.

19 (4) Ten persons to be appointed by the Governor.

20 (c) The Governor of Pennsylvania shall be Honorary Chairman
21 of the commission and shall designate from among the members
22 thereof the chairman of the commission.

23 (d) Vacancies in the commission shall be filled in the same
24 manner in which the original appointments were made.

25 Section 4. Duties of commission.

26 The duties of the commission shall include the following:

27 (1) To develop an effective observance by this
28 Commonwealth of the tricentennial.

29 (2) To plan effective tricentennial programs for
30 Pennsylvania and for its historic cities and regions,

1 coordinating such plans with programs which may be developed
2 by local governments or other recognized organizations.

3 (3) To undertake a feasibility study to institute a
4 program of designating historic preservation and restoration
5 districts in the municipalities in which restoration and
6 preservation activities are undertaken.

7 Section 5. Meetings and hearings.

8 The commission shall establish a regular schedule of meetings
9 at its first session, which will be on the call of its chairman
10 as soon as possible after the members have been appointed. The
11 commission will hold public hearings as may be necessary to
12 encourage citizens of Pennsylvania to offer their
13 recommendations regarding the tricentennial.

14 Section 6. Reports.

15 The commission shall submit each year a report to the
16 Governor and to the General Assembly covering its activities and
17 offering its recommendations. A final report on all phases of
18 its activities shall be submitted the year following the
19 completion of Pennsylvania's Tricentennial observances.

20 Section 7. Assistance from the Department of Commerce.

21 The Department of Commerce shall provide such secretarial and
22 other staff assistance as may be necessary to the proper
23 functioning of the commission consistent with the laws of the
24 Commonwealth.

25 Section 8. Finances and contributions.

26 Funds which may be appropriated by the General Assembly from
27 time to time to assist in financing the tricentennial shall be
28 appropriated to the Department of Commerce. That department
29 shall secure the advice of the commission in preparing requests
30 for such appropriations and in their expenditure.

1 Section 9. Appropriations.

2 There is hereby appropriated to the Department of Commerce,
3 to assist the work of the commission, the sum of \$25,000 for the
4 fiscal year July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978. In addition to this
5 amount, all moneys received from any other sources as
6 contributions to this program shall be paid into the General
7 Fund and credited to this appropriation.

8 Section 10. Effective date.

9 This act shall take effect July 1, 1977.