

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2110 Session of  
1979

INTRODUCED BY TADDONIO AND GOEBEL, DECEMBER 13, 1979

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON URBAN AFFAIRS, DECEMBER 13, 1979

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 21, 1939 (P.L.626, No.294), entitled  
2 "An act providing for and regulating the assessment and  
3 valuation of all subjects of taxation in counties of the  
4 second class; creating and prescribing the powers and duties  
5 of a Board of Property Assessment, Appeals and Review;  
6 imposing duties on certain county and city officers;  
7 abolishing the board for the assessment and revision of taxes  
8 in such counties; and prescribing penalties," further  
9 providing for the appointment of members of the Board of  
10 Property Assessment, Appeals and Review.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 2, act of June 21, 1939 (P.L.626,  
14 No.294), referred to as the Second Class County Assessment Law,  
15 amended May 23, 1941 (P.L.49, No.31), August 17, 1951 (P.L.1297,  
16 No.313) and May 13, 1955 (P.L.55, No.26), is amended to read:

17 Section 2. (a) The Board of Property Assessment, Appeals  
18 and Review shall consist of seven members, who shall be  
19 [citizens of this Commonwealth and all of whom shall have been  
20 residents of the county for at least ten years next prior to his  
21 appointment, and four of whom shall have not less than five

1 years' practical experience as a registered real estate broker,  
2 or real estate appraiser or assessor, one of whom shall have not  
3 less than five years' practical experience in securities  
4 transactions, necessitating a knowledge of the values of stocks,  
5 bonds and other securities, one of whom shall have not less than  
6 five years' practical experience as a building construction  
7 engineer or civil engineer or general contractor or assessor,  
8 and the seventh of whom shall have not less than five years'  
9 experience as a practicing attorney at law or registered real  
10 estate broker, or real estate appraiser or assessor] competent  
11 and qualified citizens.

12 (b) The members of the board shall be appointed by the  
13 [county commissioners] a majority of the judges of the court of  
14 common pleas of the county.

15 (c) [The terms of the members first appointed shall begin on  
16 the first Monday of January, one thousand nine hundred and  
17 forty-two. Of such members first appointed three shall be  
18 appointed for terms of six years, two shall be appointed for  
19 terms of five years; and the two remaining members shall be  
20 appointed for terms of four years. Thereafter all] All  
21 appointments to fill vacancies, happening by the expiration of a  
22 term, shall be for terms of six years. All appointments to fill  
23 vacancies happening in any manner other than by the expiration  
24 of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term only. [In each  
25 case, whether or not the vacancy happens by the expiration of a  
26 term, the appointment shall be made subject to the same  
27 requirements as in the case of the member whose vacancy is to be  
28 filled.]

29 (d) The board shall organize on the first Monday of January,  
30 one thousand nine hundred and forty-two and on the first Monday

1 of January, every third year thereafter, or as soon after such  
2 days as possible, by electing one of its members as chairman and  
3 one as vice-chairman, who shall also serve as secretary of the  
4 board. [Both the chairman and the vice-chairman shall be members  
5 who have not less than five years' practical experience as  
6 registered real estate brokers or real estate appraisers or  
7 assessors.] Each member of the board shall give bond in such  
8 amount and with surety or sureties as the county commissioners  
9 shall approve, conditioned for the faithful performance of his  
10 duties as a member of the board. The chairman of the board shall  
11 receive an annual salary of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000); the  
12 vice-chairman shall receive an annual salary of seven thousand  
13 dollars (\$7,000); and each of the other members shall receive an  
14 annual salary of six thousand dollars (\$6,000).

15 (e) All of the members of the board, as well as all persons  
16 employed by them under the provisions of this act, shall devote  
17 sufficient time to the duties of their office to fully discharge  
18 such duties, but may hold other office or employment or may  
19 engage in any business outside of their position as members or  
20 employes of the board; except, that no member or employe of the  
21 board shall engage in the real estate or insurance business or  
22 hold an office or position of employment in any such business.

23 Section 2. Section 3 of the act is amended to read:

24 Section 3. The board shall appoint to serve at its pleasure,  
25 a chief personal property assessor, such number of subordinate  
26 and special assessors and such number of clerks, stenographers  
27 and other employes as the board shall deem requisite. The  
28 salaries or compensation of all employes of the board shall be  
29 fixed by the salary board of the county and together with the  
30 salaries of the members of the board, shall be paid out of the

1 county treasury. When acting on the salary or compensation of  
2 any employe of the board, the chairman of the board shall sit as  
3 a member of the salary board. All persons appointed by the board  
4 shall be qualified according to standards, not inconsistent with  
5 the provisions of this act, adopted by the board and pursuant to  
6 such oral and written examinations as the board shall prescribe.

7 The board shall by majority vote reject any proposed employes  
8 who in the opinion of the board are not qualified according to  
9 the standards and provisions of this act, and pursuant to such  
10 oral or written examinations as the board shall prescribe. The  
11 board shall by majority vote promote, demote or discharge any  
12 employes in the department who, in the opinion of the majority  
13 of the board, are deserving of such promotion, demotion or  
14 discharge. No member of the Board of Property Assessment,  
15 Appeals and Review shall be permitted to hold any political  
16 office.

17 Section 3. The members of the Board of Property Assessment,  
18 Appeals and Review holding office on the effective date of this  
19 amendatory act shall continue to hold office until the  
20 expiration of the terms for which they have been appointed.

21 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.