
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1102 Session of
1981

Report of the Committee of Conference

To the Members of the Senate and House of Representatives:

We, the undersigned, Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate and House of Representatives for the purpose of considering Senate Bill No. 1102, entitled:
"An act amending the act of March 11, 1971 (P.L.104, No.3), entitled, as reenacted and amended, 'An act providing property tax or rent rebate and inflation dividends to certain senior citizens, widows, widowers and permanently disabled persons with limited incomes; * * * and imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue,' increasing eligibility under the property tax or rent rebate and inflation dividend; adjusting rebate and dividend schedule; increasing the maximum rebate; and providing for transportation assistance grants and grants to area agencies on aging for services to older persons,"

respectfully submit the following bill as our report:

JOHN D. HOPPER

F. JOSEPH LOEPER, Jr.

(Committee on the part of the Senate.)

MARVIN E. MILLER, Jr.

WILLIAM K. KLINGAMAN, Sr.

(Committee on the part of the House of Representatives.)

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 11, 1971 (P.L.104, No.3), entitled, as
2 reenacted and amended, "An act providing property tax or rent
3 rebate and inflation dividends to certain senior citizens,
4 widows, widowers and permanently disabled persons with
5 limited incomes; establishing uniform standards and
6 qualifications for eligibility to receive rebates and
7 dividends; and imposing duties upon the Department of
8 Revenue," increasing eligibility under the property tax or
9 rent rebate and inflation dividend; adjusting rebate and
10 dividend schedule; increasing the maximum rebate; and
11 providing for transportation assistance grants and grants to
12 area agencies on aging for services to older persons.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. The title, sections 1 and 2, clause (7) of
16 section 3 and section 4, act of March 11, 1971 (P.L.104, No.3),
17 known as the "Senior Citizens Property Tax or Rent Rebate and
18 Older Persons Inflation Needs Act," reenacted and amended June
19 16, 1975 (P.L.7, No.4) and amended December 21, 1979 (P.L.570,
20 No.131), are amended to read:

21 AN ACT

22 Providing property tax or rent rebate and inflation dividends to
23 certain senior citizens, widows, widowers and permanently
24 disabled persons with limited incomes; establishing uniform
25 standards and qualifications for eligibility to receive
26 rebates and dividends; providing for transportation
27 assistance grants and grants to area agencies on aging for
28 services to older persons; and imposing duties upon the
29 Department of Revenue.

30 Section 1. Short Title.--This act shall be known and may be
31 cited as the "Senior Citizens [Property Tax or Rent] Rebate and
32 [Older Persons Inflation Needs] Assistance Act."

33 Section 2. Declaration of Policy.--In recognition of the
34 severe economic plight of certain senior citizens, widows,

1 widowers and permanently disabled persons who are real property
2 owners or renters with fixed and limited incomes who are faced
3 with rising living costs and constantly increasing tax and
4 inflation cost burdens [upon their homesteads] which threaten
5 their homesteads and self-sufficiency, the General Assembly,
6 pursuant to the mandates of the Constitutional Convention of
7 1968, considers it to be a matter of sound public policy to make
8 special provisions for property tax rebates or rent rebates in
9 lieu of property taxes and inflation dividends to that class of
10 senior citizens, widows, widowers and permanently disabled
11 persons who are real property taxpayers or renters who are
12 without adequate means of support to enable them to remain in
13 peaceable possession of their homes and relieving their economic
14 burden and to provide transportation assistance grants and to
15 provide grants to area agencies on aging for services to older
16 persons.

17 Section 3. Definitions.--As used in this act:

18 * * *

19 (7) "Claimant" means a person who files a claim for property
20 tax rebate or rent rebate in lieu of property taxes and
21 inflation dividend and was sixty-five years of age or over, or
22 whose spouse (if a member of the household) was sixty-five years
23 of age or over, during a calendar year in which real property
24 taxes, rent and inflation costs were due and payable or was a
25 widow or widower and was fifty years of age or over during a
26 calendar year or part thereof in which real property taxes, rent
27 and inflation costs were due and payable, or was a permanently
28 disabled person eighteen years of age or over during a calendar
29 year or part thereof in which real property taxes, rent and
30 inflation costs were due and payable. For the purposes of this

1 act the term "widow" or "widower" shall mean the surviving wife
2 or the surviving husband, as the case may be, of a deceased
3 individual and who has not remarried except as provided in
4 subsection (c) and (d) of section 4 of this act. For the
5 purposes of this act the term "permanently disabled person"
6 shall mean a person who is unable to engage in any substantial
7 gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable
8 physical or mental impairment which can be expected to continue
9 indefinitely, except as provided in subsection (c) and (d) of
10 section 4 of this act.

11 * * *

12 Section 4. Property Tax; Rent Rebate and Inflation Cost.--

13 (a.1) The amount of any claim for property tax rebate or
14 rent rebate in lieu of property taxes for real property taxes or
15 rent due and payable during calendar year [1978] 1981 and
16 thereafter shall be determined in accordance with the following
17 schedule:

18	[Percentage of Real Property Taxes or	
19	Rent Rebate in Lieu of Property Taxes	
20	Household Income	Allowed as Rebate
21	\$ 0 - \$4,499	100%
22	4,500 - 4,999	90
23	5,000 - 5,499	80
24	5,500 - 5,999	70
25	6,000 - 6,499	60
26	6,500 - 6,999	50
27	7,000 - 7,499	40
28	7,500 - 7,999	30
29	8,000 - 8,499	20
30	8,500 - 8,999	10]

<u>Percentage of Real Property Taxes or</u>	
<u>Rent Rebate in Lieu of</u>	
<u>Household Income</u>	<u>Property Taxes Allowed as Rebate</u>
<u>\$ 0 - \$4,999</u>	<u>100%</u>
<u>5,000 - 5,999</u>	<u>80</u>
<u>6,000 - 6,999</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>7,000 - 7,999</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>8,000 - 8,999</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>9,000 - 11,999</u>	<u>10</u>

(a.2) To all claimants eligible for a property tax or rent rebate there shall be paid an inflation dividend determined in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Household Income</u>	<u>Dividend</u>
\$ 0 - 3,999	\$95
4,000 - 4,999	70
5,000 - 5,999	40
6,000 - 7,499	20
7,500 - 8,999	15]

<u>Household Income</u>	<u>Dividend</u>
<u>\$ 0 - 4,999</u>	<u>\$125</u>
<u>5,000 - 5,999</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>6,000 - 6,999</u>	<u>75</u>
<u>7,000 - 7,999</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>8,000 - 8,999</u>	<u>45</u>
<u>9,000 -11,999</u>	<u>30</u>

(a.3) To all claimants eligible for a property tax or rent rebate for real property taxes or rent due and payable during calendar year 1980 there shall be paid one hundred dollars (\$100) as an additional inflation dividend. The additional inflation dividend payment shall be mailed no later than the

1 mailing of the application form for claiming a 1981 property tax
2 or rent rebate.

3 (b) No claim shall be allowed if the amount of property tax
4 or rent rebate computed in accordance with this section is less
5 than ten dollars (\$10), and the maximum amount of property tax
6 or rent rebate payable shall not exceed [four hundred dollars
7 (\$400)] five hundred dollars (\$500).

8 (c) No claim shall be allowed if the claimant is a tenant of
9 an owner of real property exempt from real property taxes.

10 (d) If a homestead is owned or rented and occupied for only
11 a portion of a year or is owned or rented in part by a person
12 who does not meet the qualifications for a claimant, exclusive
13 of any interest owned or leased by a claimant's spouse, or if
14 the claimant is a widow or widower who remarries, or if the
15 claimant is a permanently disabled person who is no longer
16 disabled, the department shall apportion the real property taxes
17 or rent in accordance with the period or degree of ownership or
18 leasehold or eligibility of the claimant in determining the
19 amount of rebate for which a claimant is eligible. A claimant
20 who receives public assistance from the Department of Public
21 Welfare shall not be eligible for rent rebate in lieu of
22 property taxes, or an inflation [discount] dividend during those
23 months within which he receives public assistance.

24 (e) Rent shall not include subsidies provided by or through
25 a governmental agency.

26 Section 2. The act is amended by adding sections to read:

27 Section 11.4. Grants to Area Agencies on Aging for Services
28 to Older Persons.--For fiscal year 1981-1982 six million two
29 hundred thousand dollars (\$6,200,000) is hereby appropriated
30 from the Lottery Fund to the Department of Aging for service

1 grants to area agencies on aging. The department shall allocate
2 these funds to area agencies on aging on the basis of each
3 agency's proportionate share of all State and Federal Funds
4 currently available. Such funds shall not be used for costs of
5 administration.

6 Section 11.5. Transportation Assistance Grant.--For the
7 fiscal year 1982-1983 four million one hundred thousand dollars
8 (\$4,100,000) is hereby appropriated from the Lottery Fund to the
9 Department of Aging for transportation grants to area agencies
10 on aging to purchase, replace or lease vehicles and/or equipment
11 for use in senior citizens transportation. The total amount to
12 be granted to each area agency on aging shall be determined by
13 the following formula:

14 (two million fifty thousand dollars X a/b) +

15 (two million fifty thousand dollars X c/d)

16 "a" equals the number of elderly poor persons residing
17 in the area served by the area agency on aging.

18 "b" equals the number of elderly poor persons in
19 Pennsylvania.

20 "c" equals the number of square miles of the area served
21 by the area agency on aging.

22 "d" equals the number of square miles in Pennsylvania.

23 The grant shall be in addition to those authorized under and
24 may be used in conjunction with section 406 of the act of
25 January 22, 1968 (P.L.42, No.8), known as the "Pennsylvania
26 Urban Mass Transportation Law."

27 Section 3. Section 203(5)(iv) of the act of January 22, 1968
28 (P.L.42, No.8), known as the "Pennsylvania Urban Mass
29 Transportation Law," is repealed.

30 Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall

1 be retroactive to January 1, 1982.