

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**HOUSE BILL**  
**No. 1533** Session of  
1991

INTRODUCED BY GAMBLE, MERRY, DeLUCA, MELIO, SCHEETZ AND  
TANGRETTI, JUNE 3, 1991

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, JUNE 3, 1991

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 37 (Historical and Museums) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for documents;  
3 establishing the Local Government Records Management  
4 Improvement Fund; and imposing an additional recording fee on  
5 certain documents.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 305 of Title 37 of the Pennsylvania  
9 Consolidated Statutes is amending by adding a paragraph to read:

10 § 305. Documents.

11 The commission shall have the power and duty to:

12 \* \* \*

13 (7) Local Government Records Management Improvement  
14 Fund.--Administer all moneys deposited in a nonlapsing fund  
15 to be known as the Local Government Records Management  
16 Improvement Fund created under section 308 (relating to Local  
17 Government Records Management Improvement Fund).

18 Section 2. Title 37 is amended by adding a section to read:

19 § 308. Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund.

1     (a) Creation.--The Local Government Records Management  
2 Improvement Fund is hereby created.

3     (b) Purpose.--All moneys in this fund are hereby  
4 appropriated to the commission to be used solely for the  
5 provision of archival and records management services to school  
6 districts, to municipalities other than counties and to either  
7 county offices represented on the County Records Committee or an  
8 equivalent office in a home rule charter county.

9     (c) Limitations on use of moneys.--Specifically, this fund  
10 shall be used to support, within the commission the following:

11         (1) Management and operation of a security microfilm  
12 storage program.

13         (2) Vital records and disaster recovery services.

14         (3) Educational and training seminars relating to  
15 information management.

16         (4) The delivery of professional and technical  
17 assistance.

18         (5) The preservation, reproduction and use of  
19 historically valuable local records.

20         (6) A records management and archives regrant program.

21     (d) Allocation of fund.--The moneys in the fund are hereby  
22 appropriated to the commission and shall be allocated as  
23 follows:

24         (1) To cover the administrative, equipment, personnel  
25 and other program costs required to deliver the fund services  
26 as enumerated in subsection (c).

27         (2) All moneys not expended for costs enumerated in  
28 paragraph (1) shall be used for the award of records  
29 management and archives grants as follows:

30             (i) 80% to county offices represented on the County

1       Records Committee or an equivalent office in a home rule  
2       charter county.

3           (ii) 20% to municipalities other than counties and  
4       to school districts.

5       (3) The commission shall promulgate rules and  
6       regulations setting forth criteria and procedures for the  
7       award of grants from fund moneys in consultation with the  
8       County Records Committee and the Local Government Records  
9       Committee.

10      (e) Additional recording fee.--An additional fee of \$2 shall  
11      be charged and collected by recorders of deeds, or by their  
12      equivalent officer in a home rule charter county, for every  
13      deed, mortgage or other instrument in writing for which a  
14      recording fee is provided. Of that amount, \$1 shall be forwarded  
15      on a monthly basis to the Department of Revenue for deposit in  
16      the fund. The remaining \$1 shall be accounted for and paid to  
17      the county treasurer or to the equivalent officer in a home rule  
18      charter county. Of that \$1, 75¢ shall be used by the county to  
19      support records management and archival activities and 25¢ shall  
20      be used to cover costs associated with the collection and  
21      remittance of the fee and to support office records management  
22      activities in the office of the recorder of deeds or in its  
23      equivalent in a home rule charter county.

24      Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.