

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 608 Session of
2005

INTRODUCED BY SEMMEL, TIGUE, BASTIAN, SOLOBAY, BEBKO-JONES,
BELFANTI, BOYD, BROWNE, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAUSER,
CLYMER, CORRIGAN, CRAHALLA, DALEY, DeWEESE, FICHTER, FRANKEL,
GEIST, GEORGE, GINGRICH, HALUSKA, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HESS,
M. KELLER, KILLION, LEH, MAHER, MANN, MARSICO, MILLARD,
R. MILLER, S. MILLER, O'NEILL, PAYNE, PICKETT, REICHLEY,
RUBLEY, SANTONI, SATHER, SCHRODER, B. SMITH, STABACK, STERN,
E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, WALKO, YOUNGBLOOD AND ZUG,
FEBRUARY 16, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, FEBRUARY 16, 2005

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 7, 1990 (P.L.639, No.165), entitled
2 "An act establishing a Statewide hazardous material safety
3 program; creating the Hazardous Material Response Fund;
4 providing for the creation of Hazardous Material Emergency
5 Response Accounts in each county; further providing for the
6 powers and duties of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management
7 Agency, of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council and
8 of the counties and local governments; imposing obligations
9 on certain handlers of hazardous materials; and imposing
10 penalties," further providing for certified hazardous
11 material response teams; establishing a low-interest
12 revolving loan program for certain business entities that
13 store or handle hazardous materials; and making an
14 appropriation.

15 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
16 hereby enacts as follows:

17 Section 1. Section 209(a) of the act of December 7, 1990
18 (P.L.639, No.165), known as the Hazardous Material Emergency
19 Planning and Response Act, amended December 20, 2000 (P.L.885,
20 No.121), is amended to read:

1 Section 209. Certified hazardous material response teams.

2 (a) General rule.--The council shall establish a program for
3 certifying hazardous material response teams, setting standards
4 for training, equipment, safety, operations and administration
5 of the teams. The certification program shall include, but not
6 be limited to:

7 (1) Standards for certifying response teams with several
8 preparedness levels patterned after levels established by the
9 United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration
10 at 29 CFR Part 1910.120.

11 (2) Reviewing existing hazardous material training and
12 certification programs to establish specific procedures for
13 crediting that training and certification under the program
14 established by this section.

15 (3) Reviewing existing standards for the training and
16 equipment needed to prepare regional hazardous material
17 organizations to respond to biological and chemical
18 emergencies that are a result of a terrorist incident.

19 * * *

20 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
21 Section 214. Hazardous material security low-interest revolving
22 loan program.

23 (a) Establishment.--The Department of Labor and Industry
24 shall establish a hazardous material security low-interest
25 revolving loan program in order to provide low-interest loans to
26 businesses that report their use of hazardous materials to the
27 Department of Labor and Industry in compliance with this act.
28 Loans issued under the loan program shall be used to increase
29 the security of hazardous materials storage facilities and
30 handling areas.

1 (b) Administration.--The Department of Labor and Industry
2 shall establish the method of loan distribution, loan interest
3 rate and application process and otherwise administer the loan
4 program in a manner that maximizes the security objectives of
5 the loan program.

6 (c) Funding.--Loans issued under the loan program shall be
7 paid from Commonwealth moneys appropriated for that purpose,
8 which moneys may be used to augment any Federal funds that may
9 be available under Federal antiterrorism law.

10 Section 3. The sum of \$10,000,000, or as much thereof as may
11 be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the Department of Labor
12 and Industry for the issuance of loans under section 214 of the
13 act.

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