

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2669 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY HOHENSTEIN, A. DAVIS, CALTAGIRONE, DALEY, DeLUCA, GALLOWAY, HANBIDGE, HILL-EVANS, HOWARD, KENYATTA, KINSEY, KOSIEROWSKI, LEE, McCARTER, McNEILL, MURT, ROZZI, ZABEL AND DEASY, JULY 8, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, JULY 8, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), entitled  
2 "An act relating to the finances of the State government;  
3 providing for cancer control, prevention and research, for  
4 ambulatory surgical center data collection, for the Joint  
5 Underwriting Association, for entertainment business  
6 financial management firms, for private dam financial  
7 assurance and for reinstatement of item vetoes; providing for  
8 the settlement, assessment, collection, and lien of taxes,  
9 bonus, and all other accounts due the Commonwealth, the  
10 collection and recovery of fees and other money or property  
11 due or belonging to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,  
12 including escheated property and the proceeds of its sale,  
13 the custody and disbursement or other disposition of funds  
14 and securities belonging to or in the possession of the  
15 Commonwealth, and the settlement of claims against the  
16 Commonwealth, the resettlement of accounts and appeals to the  
17 courts, refunds of moneys erroneously paid to the  
18 Commonwealth, auditing the accounts of the Commonwealth and  
19 all agencies thereof, of all public officers collecting  
20 moneys payable to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,  
21 and all receipts of appropriations from the Commonwealth,  
22 authorizing the Commonwealth to issue tax anticipation notes  
23 to defray current expenses, implementing the provisions of  
24 section 7(a) of Article VIII of the Constitution of  
25 Pennsylvania authorizing and restricting the incurring of  
26 certain debt and imposing penalties; affecting every  
27 department, board, commission, and officer of the State  
28 government, every political subdivision of the State, and  
29 certain officers of such subdivisions, every person,  
30 association, and corporation required to pay, assess, or  
31 collect taxes, or to make returns or reports under the laws  
32 imposing taxes for State purposes, or to pay license fees or

1 other moneys to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,  
2 every State depository and every debtor or creditor of the  
3 Commonwealth," in miscellaneous limitations and transfers,  
4 further providing for COVID-19 response transfers for  
5 assistance to the Commonwealth's health care system and  
6 providing for COVID-19 response transfers from Budget  
7 Stabilization Reserve Fund.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 1735-A.1(f) of the act of April 9, 1929  
11 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, added March 27,  
12 2020 (P.L.30, No.10), is amended to read:

13 Section 1735-A.1. COVID-19 response transfers for assistance to  
14 the Commonwealth's health care system.

15 \* \* \*

16 (f) Report.--Beginning June 1, 2020, and the first day of  
17 each month thereafter, the Secretary of the Budget shall provide  
18 a report detailing all spending related to the COVID-19 response  
19 the Commonwealth has made during the preceding month, including  
20 any funding made available through the Federal Government, the  
21 Governor's disaster proclamation, an agency budget or the  
22 transfers under this section and section 1737-A.1. The report  
23 shall include the recipient, the dollar amount and a detailed  
24 explanation of the purpose of the spending. The Secretary of the  
25 Budget shall provide the report to the Majority Leader and  
26 Minority Leader of the Senate, the Majority Leader and Minority  
27 Leader of the House of Representatives, the chairperson and  
28 minority chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the  
29 Senate and the chairperson and minority chairperson of the  
30 Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives.

31 \* \* \*

32 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:  
33 Section 1737-A.1. COVID-19 response transfers from Budget

1           Stabilization Reserve Fund.

2       (a) Transfers.--Notwithstanding section 1703-A or any other  
3 provision of law to the contrary, the Secretary of the Budget  
4 may transfer up to \$50,000,000 from the General Fund to the  
5 restricted account identified under section 1735-A.1. The  
6 transferred money shall be expended for the acquisition of  
7 medical equipment and supplies for health care entities to meet  
8 urgent patient and staff needs to address surge demand. Health  
9 care entities shall include, but not be limited to, hospitals,  
10 nursing facilities and emergency medical services.

11       (b) Authorization.--The Secretary of the Budget shall only  
12 be authorized to make transfers under subsection (a) to the  
13 extent that funding authorized by the General Assembly prior to  
14 the effective date of this section and funding authorized by the  
15 Federal Government are insufficient to meet the needs of the  
16 Commonwealth's response to COVID-19.

17       (c) Notification.--The Secretary of the Budget shall provide  
18 notification to the chairperson and minority chairperson of the  
19 Appropriations Committee of the Senate and the chairperson and  
20 minority chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the  
21 House of Representatives 24 hours prior to making any transfer  
22 under subsection (a). The notification shall include the dollar  
23 amount to be transferred.

24       (d) Report.--Information regarding a transfer under  
25 subsection (a) shall be included in the report required under  
26 section 1735-A.1(f).

27       (e) Expiration.--The authority to transfer money under  
28 subsection (a) shall expire January 30, 2021.

29       (f) Definitions.--As used in this section, the term "COVID-  
30 19" shall mean the novel coronavirus as identified in the

1 Governor's proclamation of disaster emergency issued on March 6,  
2 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any  
3 renewal of the state of disaster emergency.

4       Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.