

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1090 Session of
2003

INTRODUCED BY ROSS, TANGRETTI, DALLY, COY, BELFANTI, BUNT,
CAWLEY, CIVERA, CORRIGAN, CRUZ, DALEY, DeWEESE, FRANKEL,
FREEMAN, GEORGE, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HORSEY, LAUGHLIN,
LEACH, McCALL, McGEEHAN, R. MILLER, NICKOL, READSHAW, SHANER,
SOLOBAY AND THOMAS, APRIL 8, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, APRIL 8, 2003

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 4, 1870 (P.L.343, No.335), entitled
2 "An act to define the limits and to organize the town of
3 Bloomsburg," further providing for taxation; and providing
4 for a voter referendum for certain tax increases.

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

7 Section 1. Section 9 of the act of March 4, 1870 (P.L.343,
8 No.335), entitled "An act to define the limits and to organize
9 the town of Bloomsburg," amended July 1, 1994 (P.L.407, No.63),
10 is amended to read:

11 Section 9. That the provisions of the act, entitled "A
12 further supplement to an act, entitled 'An Act to promote the
13 more certain and equal assessment of taxes in Philadelphia,'
14 approved fourteenth of March, one thousand eight hundred and
15 sixty-five, relative to assessments on agricultural and farm
16 lands and the suburban portions of said city," approved twenty-
17 fourth March, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, are

1 hereby extended and applied to the town of Bloomsburg; and
2 assessments and classifications of real estate in said town, and
3 rates of taxation thereon for town purposes, shall be as
4 provided in said act, and shall be fixed, made, regulated and
5 enforced agreeably thereto by the proper officers and by the
6 authority of said town; the town council may in any year,
7 subject to the regulations of the act aforesaid, fix a tax rate
8 for town purposes, not exceeding thirty mills on the dollar of
9 valuation of taxable property therein; but any such tax rate
10 exceeding five mills upon the dollar of valuation of property,
11 shall be agreed to and fixed by at least five votes in council,
12 after at least one week's distinct notice in public session, and
13 entered upon the minutes that such rate will be proposed. In
14 addition to the thirty mill tax the town council may, in any
15 year, fix a tax to pay interest and sinking fund charges on the
16 indebtedness of the town; fix a tax not exceeding one-half mill,
17 to provide for pensions, retirement or the purchase of annuity
18 contracts for town employees; fix a tax not exceeding eight
19 mills, for lighting and illuminating the streets, highways and
20 other public places; fix a tax not exceeding five mills for the
21 purpose of providing trash removal services for the town; fix a
22 tax not exceeding five mills to provide liability insurance for
23 the town; and fix a tax not exceeding five mills to [provide
24 police support services for the town.] support a police
25 department which serves the incorporated town solely, to support
26 the incorporated town's participation in a regional police
27 department or to pay for the purchase of police support services
28 for the incorporated town.

29 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

30 Section 9.2. If an annual tax to support a police department

1 which serves the incorporated town solely, to support the
2 incorporated town's participation in a regional police
3 department or to pay for the purchase of police support services
4 for the incorporated town is proposed to be set at a level
5 higher than five mills, the question shall be submitted to the
6 voters of the incorporated town, and the county board of
7 elections shall frame the question in accordance with the
8 election laws of this Commonwealth for submission to the voters
9 of the incorporated town. The portion of the special tax for
10 police services in excess of five mills shall not be subject to
11 a reduction in the millage rate of the general property tax
12 under section 9.1.

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