

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1173 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY KHAN, FLICK, CERRATO, HANBIDGE, PROBST, RABB,
HOHENSTEIN, MADDEN, WAXMAN, SANCHEZ, BOROWSKI, HADDOCK,
CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, PARKER, HILL-EVANS, FIEDLER, NEILSON,
MALAGARI, FLEMING, BELLMON, SCHWEYER, WARREN, HOWARD AND
GREEN, MAY 18, 2023

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND ECONOMIC AND
RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS
AMENDED, JUNE 28, 2023

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89, No.18), entitled "An
act creating the Department of Conservation and Natural
Resources consisting of certain functions of the Department
of Environmental Resources and the Department of Community
Affairs; renaming the Department of Environmental Resources
as the Department of Environmental Protection; defining the
role of the Environmental Quality Board in the Department of
Environmental Protection; making changes to responsibilities
of the State Conservation Commission and the Department of
Agriculture; transferring certain powers and duties to the
Department of Health; and repealing inconsistent acts," in
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, further
providing for community recreation and heritage conservation.

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

Section 1. Section 306 of the act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89,
No.18), known as the Conservation and Natural Resources Act, is
amended by adding a subsection to read:

Section 306. Community recreation and heritage conservation.

* * *

(a.1) Grant priority.--In considering applications for

1 grants under this act SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO PLAYGROUNDS,
2 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND ASSOCIATED RECREATION AREAS, the
3 department shall give priority to projects that correct
4 accessibility deficiencies for individuals with a disability,
5 including accessible playground equipment, such as ramped,
6 ground-level play features, accessible swings, wheelchair
7 accessible tables, adjustable equipment, universally accessible
8 swings, transfer platforms, sensory play equipment, and
9 adaptations for blind and visually impaired individuals. The
10 department shall prioritize projects that create a recreation
11 area universally designed to meet the needs of all individuals
12 and where all equipment, and the recreation area itself, is
13 accessible for individuals with a disability over projects that
14 would create a recreation area where only some equipment, or
15 only the recreation area itself, is accessible for individuals
16 with a disability.

17 * * *

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.