THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 544

Session of 1975

INTRODUCED BY NOYE, DORR, BUTERA, ANDERSON, O'CONNELL, TURNER, TADDONIO, A. C. FOSTER JR., GEESEY, ARTHURS, LEHR, KLINGAMAN, HALVERSON, W. W. WILT, DeMEDIO, RENNINGER, DININNI, MANMILLER, McCLATCHY, GRING, MOEHLMANN, GRIECO, KNEPPER, RHODES, WESTERBERG AND E. H. SMITH, FEBRUARY 19, 1975

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, FEBRUARY 19, 1975

AN ACT

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 the settlement, assessment, collection, and 4 lien of taxes, bonus, and all other accounts due the 5 Commonwealth, the collection and recovery of fees and other 6 money or property due or belonging to the Commonwealth, or 7 any agency thereof, including escheated property and the 8 proceeds of its sale, the custody and disbursement or other 9 disposition of funds and securities belonging to or in the 10 possession of the Commonwealth, and the settlement of claims 11 against the Commonwealth, the resettlement of accounts and 12 appeals to the courts, refunds of moneys erroneously paid to 13 the Commonwealth, auditing the accounts of the Commonwealth 14 and all agencies thereof, of all public officers collecting 15 moneys payable to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof, 16 and all receipts of appropriations from the Commonwealth and 17 imposing penalties; affecting every department, board, 18 commission, and officer of the State government, every 19 political subdivision of the State, and certain officers of 20 such subdivisions, every person, association, and corporation 21 required to pay, assess, or collect taxes, or to make returns or reports under the laws imposing taxes for State purposes, 22 23 or to pay license fees or other moneys to the Commonwealth, 24 or any agency thereof, every State depository and every 25 debtor or creditor of the Commonwealth, "requiring interest 26 on certain Commonwealth liabilities.

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

27

- 1 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known
- 2 as "The Fiscal Code," is amended by adding a section to read:
- 3 <u>Section 1506. Interest on Commonwealth Accounts.--The</u>
- 4 Commonwealth, its agencies and authorities shall be liable for
- 5 interest on certain of their past due accounts, at the rate of
- 6 <u>nine (9) per centum per annum, payable to vendors and</u>
- 7 contractors for materials, goods and services purchased.
- 8 Interest shall begin to accrue thirty (30) days after the bill
- 9 is due and payable provided it has been presented and is in the
- 10 possession of the Commonwealth or the proper agency or authority
- 11 for the same period of time.
- 12 <u>In the event the Commonwealth or any of its agencies and</u>
- 13 <u>authorities is unable to meet the above schedule, an automatic</u>
- 14 extension of thirty (30) days will take effect with the
- 15 <u>publication of notice of expected non compliance in the</u>
- 16 Pennsylvania Bulletin one (1) week prior to the expiration of
- 17 the initial thirty (30) day period. Such notice shall include
- 18 the name and address of the vendor or contractor affected, the
- 19 amount due and the reason for non compliance with the schedule.
- 20 Any vendor or contractor aggrieved by such extension may
- 21 <u>challenge the extension before the Board of Finance and Revenue</u>
- 22 on the basis that the Commonwealth has failed to show good cause
- 23 for its non compliance.
- The board shall establish its requirements for the hearing of
- 25 <u>such appeals</u>.
- No additional extension shall be granted for any reason other
- 27 than the General Assembly's failure to pass sufficient
- 28 appropriations for the Commonwealth or its agencies and
- 29 <u>authorities.</u>
- 30 Section 2. This act shall take effect 60 days after the date

1 of enactment.