

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 372

Session of  
1983

INTRODUCED BY FRYER, SWEET, A. C. FOSTER, JR., LEVI AND STUBAN,  
MARCH 15, 1983

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, MARCH 15, 1983

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), entitled,  
2 "An act concerning townships of the first class; amending,  
3 revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating  
4 thereto," providing for public auction.

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

7 Section 1. Clause II of section 1501 of the act of June 24,  
8 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The First Class Township Code,  
9 reenacted and amended May 27, 1949 (P.L.1955, No.569), and  
10 amended September 28, 1978 (P.L.805, No.157), is amended to  
11 read:

12 Section 1501. Suits; Property.--Townships of the first class  
13 may--

14 \* \* \*

15 II. Purchase, acquire by gift, or otherwise, hold, lease,  
16 let and convey, by sale or lease, such real and personal  
17 property as shall be deemed to be to the best interest of the  
18 township: Provided, That no real estate owned by the township

1 shall be sold for a consideration in excess of one thousand five  
2 hundred dollars except to the highest bidder after due notice by  
3 advertisement for bids in one newspaper of general circulation  
4 in the township. Such advertisement shall be published once not  
5 less than ten days prior to the date fixed for the opening of  
6 bids, and such date for opening bids shall be announced in such  
7 advertisement. The acceptance of bids shall be made only by  
8 public announcement at a regular or special meeting of the board  
9 of township commissioners. All bids shall be accepted on the  
10 condition that payment of the purchase price in full shall be  
11 made within sixty days of the acceptance of bids.

12 Except as otherwise hereinafter provided in the case of  
13 personal property of an estimated sale value of less than two  
14 hundred dollars, no township personal property shall be disposed  
15 of, by sale or otherwise, except upon approval of the board of  
16 township commissioners, by ordinance or resolution. In cases  
17 where the board of township commissioners shall approve a sale  
18 of such property, it shall estimate the sale value of the entire  
19 lot to be disposed of. If the board of township commissioners  
20 shall estimate the sale value to be two hundred dollars or more,  
21 the entire lot shall be advertised for sale once, in at least  
22 one newspaper of general circulation in the township, not less  
23 than ten days prior to the date fixed for the opening of bids or  
24 public auction, and such date of opening of bids or public  
25 auction shall be announced in such advertisement, and sale of  
26 the property so advertised shall be made to the best responsible  
27 bidder. The board of township commissioners shall have  
28 authority, by resolution, to adopt a procedure for the sale of  
29 surplus personal property of an estimated sale value of less  
30 than two hundred dollars and the approval of the board of

1 township commissioners shall not be required for any individual  
2 sale that shall be made in conformity to such procedure.

3 The provisions of this clause shall not be mandatory where  
4 township property is to be traded in or exchanged for new  
5 township property.

6 The provisions of this clause shall not prohibit the sale or  
7 exchange of township property to public utilities.

8 The provisions of this clause requiring advertising for bids  
9 and sale to the highest bidder shall not apply where township  
10 real or personal property is to be sold to a county, city,  
11 borough, town, township, institution district, school district,  
12 or municipal authority pursuant to the Municipality Authorities  
13 Act of 1945, or to a nonprofit corporation engaged in community  
14 industrial development or where real property is to be sold to a  
15 person for his exclusive use in an industrial development  
16 program or where real property is to be sold to a nonprofit  
17 corporation organized as a public library, or where real  
18 property is to be sold to a nonprofit medical service  
19 corporation as authorized by clause LXXII of section 1502, or  
20 where real property is to be sold to a nonprofit housing  
21 corporation as authorized by clause LXXIII of section 1502. When  
22 real property is to be sold to a nonprofit corporation organized  
23 as a public library or to a nonprofit medical service  
24 corporation or to a nonprofit housing corporation the board of  
25 township commissioners may elect to accept such nominal  
26 consideration for such sale as it shall deem appropriate. Real  
27 property sold pursuant to this clause to a nonprofit medical  
28 service corporation or to a nonprofit housing corporation shall  
29 be subject to the condition that when the property is not used  
30 for the purposes of the corporation the property shall revert to

1 the township.

2 Any officer who sells and each officer who votes in favor of  
3 selling any township property, either real or personal, without  
4 the provisions of this section having been complied with, shall  
5 be subject to surcharge in the amount of any loss sustained by  
6 the township by reason of such sale.

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