

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 871 Session of
1995

INTRODUCED BY McCALL, HENNESSEY, TRELLO, YOUNGBLOOD, LAUGHLIN,
CORNELL AND ROONEY, FEBRUARY 21, 1995

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
FEBRUARY 21, 1995

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 5, 1982 (P.L.222, No.71), entitled "An
2 act designating a portion of the Lehigh River as a component
3 of the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers System in accordance with
4 the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Act; providing for
5 cooperation, limitation of liability and regulation of river
6 recreational usage and authorizing the expenditure of
7 moneys," further regulating raft operations on the Lehigh
8 River in Lehigh River Gorge State Park.

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

11 Section 1. Section 7 of the act of April 5, 1982 (P.L.222,
12 No.71), known as the Lehigh Scenic River Act, is amended to
13 read:

14 Section 7. Responsibilities of the Department of Environmental
15 Resources.

16 (a) The Department of Environmental Resources shall assume
17 the role of lead State agency responsible for:

18 (1) the coordination of State agency roles and
19 responsibilities relating to State lands and water resources,
20 recreation use and control, and the administration of

1 recreation-related public services on State-owned facilities
2 within the Lehigh Scenic River component;

3 (2) coordinating and integrating the management
4 objectives and policies of all related Commonwealth programs
5 affecting the Lehigh Scenic River component;

6 (3) acting as a point of contact for Lehigh Scenic River
7 component residents

8 and visitors; (4) implementing the recommendations regarding
9 water resource management,

10 land management, recreation use and facility development and
11 administrative responsibilities as outlined within text of the
12 study of the Lehigh River conducted by the Department of
13 Environmental Resources under the "Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers
14 Act" and known as the "Lehigh Scenic River Study"; and

15 (5) defining and regulating the carrying capacity of the
16 Lehigh River Gorge to minimize the impacts of overuse upon
17 this resource.

18 (b) Upon the expiration of any existing concessionaire
19 contract for rafting on the Lehigh River in the Lehigh River
20 Gorge State Park, the department shall publicly re-bid that
21 contract. Any new contract resulting from this re-bid shall be
22 for a term not to exceed seven years.

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