THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2942 Session of 2002

INTRODUCED BY STURLA, ROONEY, BEBKO-JONES, CORRIGAN, CURRY, HARHAI, JOSEPHS, KELLER, LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, MELIO, PETRARCA, SCRIMENTI, TANGRETTI, YOUNGBLOOD AND YUDICHAK, OCTOBER 23, 2002

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON URBAN AFFAIRS, OCTOBER 23, 2002

AN ACT

- 1 Providing for financial assistance to certain distressed areas 2 of this Commonwealth; creating the Targeted Redevelopment
- 3 Assistance for Communities Loan Fund; conferring powers and
- 4 duties on the Department of Community and Economic
- 5 Development; authorizing the incurring of indebtedness; and
- 6 making an appropriation.

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- 19 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 20 hereby enacts as follows:
- 21 CHAPTER 1
- 22 GENERAL PROVISIONS
- 23 Section 101. Short title.
- 24 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Targeted
- 25 Redevelopment Assistance for Communities Loan Act.
- 26 Section 102. Legislative intent.
- 27 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:
- 28 (1) There exists in distressed areas of this
- 29 Commonwealth a condition of substantial and persistent
- 30 unemployment and underemployment which causes hardship to

- 1 many individuals and families, wastes vital human resources,
- 2 increases the public assistance burdens of this Commonwealth
- and municipalities, impairs the security of family life,
- 4 contributes to the growth of crime and delinquency, prevents
- 5 many of our youth from finishing their educations, impedes
- 6 the economic and physical development of municipalities and
- 7 adversely affects the welfare and prosperity of all the
- 8 people of this Commonwealth.
- 9 (2) Many existing industrial, manufacturing, commercial
- and retail facilities in such areas are obsolete,
- inefficient, abandoned and dilapidated, underutilized or in
- the process of being vacated.
- 13 (3) Unemployment and the absence of new economic
- opportunities in such areas has tended to reduce the tax base
- of municipalities and impair their financial ability to
- support education and other local governmental services.
- 17 (4) New industrial, manufacturing, commercial and retail
- 18 facilities are necessary to attract and house new job-
- 19 producing enterprises which will reduce unemployment and
- 20 stabilize the local tax base.
- 21 (5) The unaided efforts of private enterprise have not
- 22 met and cannot meet the needs of providing such facilities
- 23 due to problems encountered in assembling suitable building
- sites, the unavailability of private capital for development
- in distressed areas and the inability of private enterprise
- alone to plan, finance and coordinate industrial,
- 27 manufacturing, commercial and retail development within such
- 28 distressed areas.
- 29 (6) The health, safety, morals and general welfare of
- 30 the people of this Commonwealth are directly dependent upon

- the continual encouragement, development, growth and
- 2 expansion of business, industry and commerce within
- 3 distressed areas in this Commonwealth.
- 4 (7) Unemployment, the spread of indigency and the heavy
- 5 burden of public assistance and unemployment compensation can
- 6 best be avoided by the promotion, attraction, stimulation,
- development, retention, rehabilitation and expansion of
- 8 business, industry and commerce within distressed areas in
- 9 this Commonwealth.
- 10 (8) There exists throughout this Commonwealth areas that
- 11 constitute a serious and growing menace, injurious and
- inimical to the health, safety, morals and general welfare of
- the residents of this Commonwealth.
- 14 (9) Each of these areas contributes substantially to the
- spread of disease and crime, necessitating excessive and
- disproportionate expenditure of public funds for the
- 17 preservation of the public health and safety, for crime
- prevention, correction, prosecution and punishment and the
- 19 treatment of juvenile delinquency and for the maintenance of
- 20 adequate police, fire and accident protection and other
- 21 public services and facilities.
- 22 (10) Each of these areas constitutes an economic and
- 23 social liability, substantially impairs or arrests the sound
- growth of municipalities and retards the provisions of
- 25 housing accommodations, and each decreases the value of
- 26 private investments and threatens the sources of public
- 27 revenue and the financial stability of communities.
- 28 (11) Economic and social interdependence of different
- 29 communities and of different areas within single communities
- and the redevelopment of land and buildings to promote the

- sound growth of the community is necessary in order to
- 2 achieve comprehensive reversal of existing substandard
- 3 conditions and to prevent the recurrence of such conditions
- 4 or their development in other parts of the community or in
- 5 other communities.
- 6 (12) Many areas are beyond remedy and control solely by
- 7 regulatory process in the exercise of the police power and
- 8 cannot be dealt with effectively by the ordinary operations
- 9 of private enterprise without the aids provided under this
- 10 act, the acquisition of property, the removal of structures
- and improvement of sites and the disposition of the property
- for redevelopment incidental to the foregoing.
- 13 (13) Acquisition, planning, clearance, conservation,
- rehabilitation or rebuilding of projects for residential,
- 15 governmental, recreational, educational, hospital, business,
- industrial, manufacturing, commercial, retail or other
- 17 purposes, including the provision of streets, parks,
- 18 recreational areas and other open spaces, are benefits for
- 19 which public funds may be expended for the good and welfare
- of this Commonwealth.
- 21 (14) While certain projects, or portions thereof, may
- 22 require acquisition and clearance because the state of
- 23 deterioration may make impracticable the reclamation of such
- areas or portions by conservation and rehabilitation, other
- 25 projects, or portions thereof, are in such condition that
- they may be conserved or rehabilitated in a manner that the
- 27 conditions and evils enumerated in this section may be
- 28 alleviated or eliminated.
- 29 (15) It is the policy of this Commonwealth to promote
- 30 the health, safety, morals and general welfare of its

- inhabitants and to promote a vigorous and growing economy, to
- 2 prevent economic stagnation and to encourage the creation of
- new job opportunities in order to protect against the hazards
- 4 of unemployment, reduce the level of public assistance to now
- 5 indigent individuals and families, increase revenues to the
- 6 Commonwealth and to its municipalities and to achieve stable
- 7 and diversified local economies.
- 8 (16) In furtherance of these goals, it is the policy of
- 9 the Commonwealth to retain and expand existing enterprises
- and to attract new enterprises through the acquisition,
- 11 construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of industrial
- and manufacturing plants, commercial and retail facilities,
- and to prepare and cause to be developed sites for new
- industrial, manufacturing, commercial and retail buildings
- 15 and facilities.
- 16 (17) It is also the policy of this Commonwealth to
- 17 promote the development of such sites, reasonably accessible
- 18 to impoverished residential concentrations, particularly in
- 19 those areas where substantial unemployment or underemployment
- 20 exists, to the end that the industrial, manufacturing,
- 21 commercial and retail development of our distressed areas
- 22 will proceed in sound fashion and in coordination with
- 23 development of other industrial, manufacturing, commercial
- and retail facilities and housing, mass transportation and
- 25 public services, and that employment opportunities will be
- available in those areas where people lack jobs.
- 27 Section 103. Definitions.
- The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 29 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 30 context clearly indicates otherwise:

- 1 "Applicant." Any municipality which has a targeted area.
- "Business enterprise activity." Industrial, manufacturing,
- 3 commercial, retail or any other activity undertaken to further
- 4 the development, manufacturing, distribution or sale of goods
- 5 and services, including, but not limited to, research and
- 6 development, warehousing, shipping, transport or
- 7 remanufacturing.
- 8 "Department." The Department of Community and Economic
- 9 Development of the Commonwealth.
- 10 "Distressed area." A municipality determined by the
- 11 Department of Community and Economic Development to be or at
- 12 risk of becoming distressed.
- 13 "Fund." The Targeted Redevelopment Assistance for
- 14 Communities Loan Fund created in section 302.
- "Investor-developer." Any person, municipality, partnership,
- 16 corporation or other entity that is engaged in the development,
- 17 for use by occupants, of one or more projects and is determined
- 18 by the Department of Community and Economic Development to be
- 19 financially responsible to assume all obligations in the
- 20 acquisition, development, construction, leasing, sale, operation
- 21 and financing, in whole or in part, of a project, including, but
- 22 not limited to:
- 23 (1) An industrial and commercial development authority
- 24 organized pursuant to or industrial development authority as
- 25 certified by the Department of Community and Economic
- Development under the act of August 23, 1967 (P.L.251,
- No.102), known as the Economic Development Financing Law.
- 28 (2) An industrial development corporation certified
- 29 under the act of May 17, 1956 (1955 P.L.1609, No.537), known
- as the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority Act.

- 1 (3) A business improvement district organized under 53
- 2 Pa.C.S. Ch. 54 (relating to business improvement districts).
- 3 (4) An authority created under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 56
- 4 (relating to municipal authorities), for business
- 5 improvements and administrative services.
- 6 (5) A redevelopment authority organized under the act of
- 7 May 24, 1945 (P.L.991, No.385), known as the Urban
- 8 Redevelopment Law.
- 9 (6) A community development corporation which meets
- 10 criteria as developed by the Department of Community and
- 11 Economic Development.
- 12 "Issuing officials." The Governor, the Auditor General and
- 13 the State Treasurer.
- 14 "Municipality." Any city, borough, incorporated town,
- 15 township or home rule municipality.
- 16 "Program." The Targeted Redevelopment Assistance for
- 17 Communities Loan Program established in section 301.
- 18 "Project." Any or all of the following activities occurring
- 19 within the geographic boundaries of an eligible applicant:
- 20 (1) The acquisition of land and buildings, including
- 21 relocation costs.
- 22 (2) The demolition of buildings.
- 23 (3) The clearing or preparation of land or both.
- 24 (4) The construction of new or expanded industrial,
- 25 manufacturing, commercial or retail facilities.
- 26 (5) The renovation, rehabilitation or conversion of
- 27 existing industrial, manufacturing, commercial or retail
- 28 facilities.
- 29 (6) The construction of new or reconstruction of
- 30 existing infrastructure and utilities.

- 1 (7) The cleanup of hazardous materials.
- 2 "Redevelopment." Undertakings and activities made under the
- 3 act of May 24, 1945 (P.L.991, No.385), known as the Urban
- 4 Redevelopment Law, including, but not limited to, planning,
- 5 acquisition, site preparation, demolition, rehabilitation,
- 6 renovation, conservation, reuse, renewal, improvement,
- 7 clearance, sale and lease of real property and improvements
- 8 thereon.
- 9 "Secretary." The Secretary of Community and Economic
- 10 Development of the Commonwealth.
- "Site." The location of a project.
- 12 "Targeted area." Any distressed area in this Commonwealth as
- 13 defined by this act.
- 14 CHAPTER 3
- 15 TARGETED REDEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE
- 16 Section 301. Establishment of program.
- 17 There is hereby created under the direction of the
- 18 department, a program to be known as the Targeted Redevelopment
- 19 Assistance for Communities Loan Program for the purpose of
- 20 making redevelopment partnership and local government loans to
- 21 an applicant for the financing of private development or public
- 22 improvements or both by investor-developers in a targeted area
- 23 which will meet program objectives.
- 24 Section 302. Creation of fund.
- 25 (a) General rule. -- There is hereby created a restricted
- 26 receipt account in the State Treasury to be known as the
- 27 Targeted Redevelopment Assistance for Communities Loan Fund to
- 28 which shall be credited:
- 29 (1) All proceeds from the sale of bonds or notes as
- 30 approved under section 501.

- 1 (2) All proceeds from loan repayments.
- 2 (3) Any other deposits, payments or contributions from
- 3 any other source made available to the fund.
- 4 (b) Revolving fund.--The fund shall operate as a revolving
- 5 fund whereby all payments and interest made thereto may be
- 6 applied and reapplied to the purposes of this act.
- 7 (c) Credit of moneys.--All deposits and contributions made
- 8 to the fund shall immediately be credited in full to the fund.
- 9 (d) Expenses.--Expenses of the Commonwealth in carrying out
- 10 the provisions of this act may be charged to the fund, including
- 11 the underwriting of loans. These expenses shall not exceed 5% of
- 12 the first \$10,000,000 and 2% of subsequent fund allocations.
- 13 Section 303. Project eligibility.
- 14 (a) General rule. -- An applicant shall be eligible for a loan
- 15 under the program for a project that meets the following
- 16 conditions:
- 17 (1) The total eligible cost of each project shall not be
- less than \$300,000.
- 19 (2) The total amount of funds awarded to any one
- 20 municipality shall not exceed 20% of the total funds
- 21 available.
- 22 (3) The investor-developer shall provide detailed
- 23 project information and commitments, in writing, from public
- and private financing sources, which when added to the amount
- of the proposed loan will confirm that the project is
- 26 financially feasible. This documentation shall provide
- evidence that but for the moneys available from the fund the
- 28 investor-developer would not be able to implement the
- 29 project.
- 30 (4) The total amount of Commonwealth funds in the

- project shall not exceed 50% of the total eligible project cost.
- 3 (5) The investor-developer shall contribute cash equity 4 to the project in an amount equal to at least 10% of the 5 total eligible project cost.
- 6 (6) The applicant shall hold at least one public hearing 7 on the proposed project.
- 8 (7) The applicant shall approve the proposed project at
 9 a public meeting authorizing the submission of the
 10 application to the department in accordance with the
 11 requirements and procedures established by the department.
- 12 (b) Eligibility criteria. -- The department shall establish
 13 criteria which shall include, but not be limited to, the
 14 following, which shall be used in addition to the requirements
 15 of subsection (a) to determine eligibility:
- 16 (1) The project will support a municipality in meeting a 17 critical economic development need that cannot be achieved 18 through other public or private financing or both.
 - (2) The project will create, renovate, rehabilitate or convert underused and vacant buildings and facilities for industrial, manufacturing, commercial and retail use, and business enterprise and related activities in targeted areas.
 - (3) The project will be of public benefit, in the public interest and for a public purpose, consistent with the sound needs of the municipality as a whole, by supporting economic development activities which result in job creation or job retention or both, and industrial, manufacturing, commercial and retail revitalization, and business enterprise activities or any combination thereof. Any benefit to private entities or individuals will be indirect and incidental and not the

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- 1 primary purpose of the project as determined by the
- 2 department.
- 3 (4) The project will be carried out under the direction
- 4 and control of a responsible investor-developer, as
- 5 determined by the department.
- 6 (5) The project will demonstrate the potential to
- 7 generate and retain long-term employment.
- 8 (c) Historic places.--Projects which involve the removal of
- 9 structures which have been included on the Pennsylvania Register
- 10 of Historic Places in accordance with the provisions of 37
- 11 Pa.C.S. (relating to historical and museums) shall not be
- 12 eligible for funds under this program.
- 13 Section 304. Application requirements and procedures.
- 14 (a) General rule.--Application requirements and
- 15 administrative procedures shall be established by the
- 16 department.
- 17 (b) Form and manner.--Applications shall be submitted to and
- 18 received by the department in the form and manner as the
- 19 department may require and shall be accompanied by any
- 20 additional documentation the department may request.
- 21 (c) Approval.--Upon receipt of the completed application,
- 22 the department shall review the application and approve or
- 23 disapprove it. A completed application shall include, but not be
- 24 limited to:
- 25 (1) A description of the project.
- 26 (2) A legal description of all real estate involved in
- the project, including site control.
- 28 (3) The estimated cost of the project.
- 29 (4) A letter of intent or signed contractual agreement
- 30 by an investor-developer. The letter of intent shall include:

- 1 (i) A commitment that the proposed project will
- 2 create an estimated number of full-time jobs and the
- 3 types of jobs created.
- 4 (ii) A statement of willingness to provide security
- 5 adequate to cover the cost of a loan, including principal
- 6 and interest due to and owing to the date of foreclosure
- 7 and any penalty imposed by the department.
- 8 (d) Notification. -- The department shall notify the applicant
- 9 of final approval or disapproval of the application within 45
- 10 days following receipt of a completed application, including all
- 11 supporting and required documentation.
- 12 Section 305. Selection criteria.
- 13 (a) General rule.--Distressed areas shall be eligible for
- 14 consideration for a loan under this program.
- 15 (b) Criteria. -- Applications shall be approved or disapproved
- 16 based upon criteria which shall include, but not be limited to,
- 17 any of the following:
- 18 (1) The ability of the investor-developer to finance the
- 19 project and to repay the loans.
- 20 (2) The amount of private leverage in the project.
- 21 (3) The economic condition of the municipality.
- 22 (4) The severity of blight at the project site as
- described in section 12.1(c) of the act of May 24, 1945
- 24 (P.L.991, No.385), known as the Urban Redevelopment Law.
- 25 (5) The potential for job creation and stabilization of
- 26 the property tax base.
- 27 (6) The involvement of the restoration of structures
- which have been included on the Pennsylvania Register of
- 29 Historic Places in accordance with the provisions of 37
- 30 Pa.C.S. (relating to historical and museums).

- 1 (c) Project costs not to be considered.--In determining the
- 2 ratio of public to private financing, the following types of
- 3 project costs may not be considered:
- 4 (1) Developer fees exceeding 5% of the total project
- 5 cost.
- 6 (2) Profit and overhead.
- 7 (3) Investment or any costs prior to the award of funds.
- 8 (4) Acquisition of an occupied portion of a partially or
- 9 fully occupied building.
- 10 (5) Investment in working capital, inventory or start-up
- 11 costs.
- 12 (6) Equipment which has a minimum depreciable life of
- 13 less than five years.
- 14 (7) Debt service reserves and operating deficit or
- 15 refinancing of existing debt.
- 16 (8) Tenant improvements.
- 17 (9) Buildings with public leases of more than 90%.
- 18 (d) Project costs to be considered. -- In determining the
- 19 ratio of public to private financing, the following types of
- 20 project costs may be considered:
- 21 (1) Hard development costs associated with the
- 22 development of real property, land acquisition, on-site
- 23 improvements and construction and/or renovation costs.
- 24 (2) Capital equipment affixed to the real property which
- 25 has a depreciable life of not less than five years.
- 26 (3) Soft costs which shall include developer fees up to
- 27 5% of the total project cost and taxes.
- 28 (4) Legal expenses, architectural and engineering fees
- and construction period interest if paid to independent third
- 30 parties.

- 1 Section 306. Conditions for award of loans.
- 2 (a) Redevelopment partnership loans.--No less than 90% of
- 3 the fund shall be distributed by the department in the form of
- 4 interest-free redevelopment partnership loans to approved
- 5 applicants for distribution in the form of loans to investor-
- 6 developers for the purposes set forth in this act.
- 7 (b) Local government loans.--No less than 10% of the fund
- 8 shall be awarded in the form of local government loans to
- 9 eligible applicants. These loans are to be awarded solely for
- 10 the purpose of making public improvements in targeted areas for
- 11 the purposes set forth in this act. The criteria for awarding
- 12 these loans shall be determined by the department.
- 13 Section 307. Repayment and default of redevelopment partnership
- 14 loans.
- 15 (a) Interest. -- An interest rate may be established by the
- 16 applicant, and interest paid on the loan by the investor-
- 17 developer shall be paid to the applicant. The principal shall be
- 18 repaid to the Commonwealth and deposited into the fund.
- 19 (b) Penalty for private companies. -- An investor-developer
- 20 who fails to make the required amount of private investment
- 21 shall be liable for a penalty equal to the full amount of the
- 22 loan awarded to the applicant unless the penalty is waived by
- 23 the department because the failure is due to circumstances
- 24 outside the control of the investor-developer. The penalty shall
- 25 be payable in one lump sum or in installments, as the department
- 26 deems appropriate. The department shall submit notice of
- 27 penalties and waivers of penalties to the Secretary of the
- 28 Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives,
- 29 along with the decision of the department on the imposition of
- 30 penalties and the reasons for this decision. The department is

- 1 authorized to enforce this subsection. The department may bring
- 2 an action to enforce this subsection in a court of competent
- 3 jurisdiction.
- 4 (c) Penalty for municipalities. -- If the department finds
- 5 that a municipality has failed to meet its repayment obligation
- 6 under this section, the department shall provide a written
- 7 notice of violation to the municipality. Within 60 days of
- 8 receipt of the notice of violation, the municipality shall
- 9 report to the department the action which it is taking to meet
- 10 its repayment obligation. If, within 180 days of receipt of the
- 11 notice of violation, the municipality has failed to meet its
- 12 repayment obligation, as determined by the department, the
- 13 secretary shall notify the State Treasurer to withhold payment
- 14 of all liquid fuels tax allocation funds payable to the
- 15 municipality. Upon notification, the State Treasurer shall hold
- 16 in escrow all moneys due to such municipality from the
- 17 Commonwealth until such time as the department notifies the
- 18 State Treasurer that the municipality has met its repayment
- 19 obligation. The department shall provide the name of the
- 20 municipality and the amount of funds withheld along with a
- 21 rationale for the same to the Secretary of the Senate and the
- 22 Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.
- 23 Section 308. Repayment and default of local government loans.
- 24 (a) General rule.--Eligible applicants shall repay principal
- 25 on local government loans to the Commonwealth for deposit into
- 26 the fund, unless repayment is waived by the secretary for
- 27 reasons in keeping with the advancement of the purposes of this
- 28 act.
- 29 (b) Tax increment financing. -- In accordance with the act of
- 30 July 11, 1990 (P.L.465, No.113), known as the Tax Increment

- 1 Financing Act, municipalities may authorize tax increment
- 2 financing for the repayment of the public loan amount in whole
- 3 or in part over a five-year period along with any proceeds which
- 4 may be derived from the sale of any site acquired through the
- 5 loan.
- 6 (c) Loan forgiveness.--If, after a five-year period of the
- 7 authorization of the tax increment financing, there have not
- 8 been any private taxable improvements made, then the public loan
- 9 may be forgiven as determined by the department.
- 10 (d) Tax repayment.--If, within a five-year period of the
- 11 authorization of tax increment financing improvements are made,
- 12 the new taxes yielded shall be used to repay the local
- 13 government loan.
- 14 (e) Penalties.--If the department finds that a municipality
- 15 has failed to meet its repayment obligation under this section,
- 16 the department shall provide a written notice of violation to
- 17 the municipality. Within 60 days of receipt of the notice of
- 18 violation, the municipality shall report to the department the
- 19 action which it is taking to meet its repayment obligation. If
- 20 within 180 days of receipt of the notice of violation, the
- 21 municipality has failed to meet its repayment obligation, as
- 22 determined by the department, the secretary shall notify the
- 23 State Treasurer to withhold payment of all liquid fuels tax
- 24 allocation funds payable to the municipality. Upon notification,
- 25 the State Treasurer shall hold in escrow all moneys due to such
- 26 municipality from the Commonwealth until such time as the
- 27 department notifies the State Treasurer that the municipality
- 28 has met its repayment obligation.
- 29 CHAPTER 5
- 30 BOND ISSUANCE

- 1 Section 501. Referendum.
- 2 (a) Question. -- The question of incurring indebtedness of
- 3 \$200,000,000 for the purposes of redevelopment assistance for
- 4 communities in accordance with this act shall be submitted to
- 5 the electors at the next primary, municipal or general election
- 6 following enactment of this act.
- 7 (b) Certification. -- The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall
- 8 certify the form of the question under subsection (c) to the
- 9 county boards of elections.
- 10 (c) Form of question. -- The question shall be in
- 11 substantially the following form:
- 12 Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the
- Commonwealth of \$200,000,000 to provide for redevelopment
- 14 assistance loans to promote development and expansion of
- business, industry and commerce in distressed areas of
- 16 this Commonwealth?
- 17 (d) Election.--The election shall be conducted at the next
- 18 occurring general or municipal election following the effective
- 19 date of this act, in accordance with the act of June 3, 1937
- 20 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code,
- 21 except that the time limits for advertisement of notice of the
- 22 election may be waived as to the question.
- 23 (e) Proceeds.--Proceeds of borrowing shall be deposited in
- 24 the Targeted Redevelopment Assistance for Communities Loan Fund
- 25 and shall be used to implement the provisions of this act.
- 26 Section 502. Commonwealth indebtedness.
- 27 (a) Borrowing authorized. -- Subject to the approval of the
- 28 electorate of the referendum set forth in section 501 and under
- 29 the provisions of section 7(a)(3) of Article VIII of the
- 30 Constitution of Pennsylvania, the issuing officials are

- 1 authorized and directed to borrow over a three-year period, on
- 2 the credit of the Commonwealth, money not exceeding in the
- 3 aggregate the sum of \$200,000,000, not including money borrowed
- 4 to refund outstanding bonds, notes or replacement notes, as may
- 5 be found necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.
- 6 (b) Issuance.--As evidence of the indebtedness authorized in
- 7 this act, general obligation bonds of the Commonwealth shall be
- 8 issued, from time to time, to provide moneys necessary to carry
- 9 out the purposes of this act for such total amounts, in such
- 10 form, in such denominations and subject to such terms and
- 11 conditions of issue, redemption and maturity, rate of interest
- 12 and time of payment of interest as the issuing officials direct,
- 13 except that the latest stated maturity date shall not exceed 20
- 14 years from the date of the first obligation issued to evidence
- 15 the debt.
- 16 (c) Signatures. -- All bonds and notes issued under the
- 17 authority of this act shall bear facsimile signatures of the
- 18 issuing official and a facsimile of the great seal of the
- 19 Commonwealth and shall be countersigned by a duly authorized
- 20 officer of a duly authorized loan and transfer agent of the
- 21 Commonwealth.
- 22 (d) Direct obligation of Commonwealth.--All bonds and notes
- 23 issued in accordance with the provisions of this section shall
- 24 be direct obligations of the Commonwealth, and the full faith
- 25 and credit of the Commonwealth are hereby pledged for the
- 26 payment of the interest thereon, as it becomes due, and the
- 27 payment of the principal at maturity. The principal of and
- 28 interest on the bonds and notes shall be payable in lawful money
- 29 of the United States.
- 30 (e) Tax exemption.--All bonds and notes issued under the

- 1 provisions of this section shall be exempt from taxation for
- 2 State and local purposes.
- 3 (f) Type of bonds.--The bonds may be issued as coupon bonds
- 4 or registered as to both principal and interest as the issuing
- 5 officials may determine. If interest coupons are attached, they
- 6 shall contain the facsimile signature of the State Treasurer.
- 7 (g) Authorization and retirement.--The issuing officials
- 8 shall provide for the amortization of the bonds in substantial
- 9 and regular amounts over the term of the debt so that the bonds
- 10 of each issue allocated to the program to be funded from the
- 11 bond issue shall mature within a period not to exceed an
- 12 appropriate amortization period for the program as specified by
- 13 the issuing officials but in no case in excess of 30 years. The
- 14 first retirement of principal shall be stated to mature prior to
- 15 the expiration of a period of time equal to one-tenth of the
- 16 time from the date of the first obligation issued to evidence
- 17 the debt to the date of the expiration of the term of the debt.
- 18 Retirements of principal shall be regular and substantial if
- 19 made in annual or semiannual amounts whether by stated serial
- 20 maturities or by mandatory sinking fund retirements.
- 21 (h) Refunding bonds.--The issuing officials are authorized
- 22 to provide by resolution for the issuance of refunding bonds for
- 23 the purpose of refunding any debt issued under the provisions of
- 24 this act and then outstanding, either by voluntary exchange with
- 25 the holders of the outstanding debt or to provide funds to
- 26 redeem and retire the outstanding debt with accrued interest,
- 27 any premium payable thereon and the costs of issuance and
- 28 retirement of the debt, at maturity or at any call date. The
- 29 issuance of the refunding bonds, the maturities and other
- 30 details thereof, the rights of the holders thereof and the

- 1 duties of the issuing officials in respect thereto shall be
- 2 governed by the provisions of this section insofar as they may
- 3 be applicable. Refunding bonds, which are not subject to the
- 4 aggregate limitation of \$200,000,000 of debt to be issued
- 5 pursuant to this act, may be issued by the issuing officials to
- 6 refund debt originally issued or to refund bonds previously
- 7 issued for refunding purposes.
- 8 (i) Quorum.--Whenever any action is to be taken or decision
- 9 made by the Governor, the Auditor General and the State
- 10 Treasurer acting as issuing officials and the three officers are
- 11 not able unanimously to agree, the action or decision of the
- 12 Governor and either the Auditor General or the State Treasurer
- 13 shall be binding and final.
- 14 Section 503. Sale of bonds.
- 15 (a) Public sale.--Whenever bonds are issued, they shall be
- 16 offered for sale at not less than 98% of the principal amount
- 17 and accrued interest and shall be sold by the issuing officials
- 18 to the highest and best bidder or bidders after due public
- 19 advertisement on the terms and conditions and upon such open
- 20 competitive bidding as the issuing officials shall direct. The
- 21 manner and character of the advertisement and the time of
- 22 advertising shall be prescribed by the issuing officials. No
- 23 commission shall be allowed or paid for the sale of any bonds
- 24 issued under the authority of this act.
- 25 (b) Private sale. -- Any portion of any bond issue so offered
- 26 and not sold or subscribed for at public sale may be disposed of
- 27 by private sale by the issuing officials in such manner and at
- 28 such prices, not less than 98% of the principal amount and
- 29 accrued interest, as the Governor shall direct. No commission
- 30 shall be allowed or paid for the sale of any bonds issued under

- 1 the authority of this act.
- 2 (c) Series.--When bonds are issued from time to time, the
- 3 bonds of each issue shall constitute a separate series to be
- 4 designated by the issuing officials or may be combined for sale
- 5 as one series with other general obligation bonds of the
- 6 Commonwealth.
- 7 (d) Temporary bonds.--Until permanent bonds can be prepared,
- 8 the issuing officials may in their discretion issue, in lieu of
- 9 permanent bonds, temporary bonds in such form and with such
- 10 privileges as to registration and exchange for permanent bonds
- 11 as may be determined by the issuing officials.
- 12 Section 504. Disposition and use of proceeds.
- 13 (a) Proceeds. -- The proceeds realized from the sale of bonds
- 14 and notes, except refunding bonds and replacement notes, under
- 15 the provisions of this act shall be paid into the Targeted
- 16 Redevelopment Assistance for Communities Loan Fund in the State
- 17 Treasury and are specifically dedicated to the purposes of this
- 18 act. The proceeds shall be paid by the State Treasurer
- 19 periodically to the department at such times and in such amounts
- 20 as may be necessary to satisfy the funding needs of the
- 21 department. The proceeds of the sale of refunding bonds and
- 22 replacement notes shall be paid to the State Treasurer and
- 23 applied to the payment of principal, the accrued interest and
- 24 premium, if any, and cost of redemption of the bonds and notes
- 25 for which the obligations shall have been issued.
- 26 (b) Interest.--Pending their application for the purposes
- 27 authorized, moneys held or deposited by the State Treasurer may
- 28 be invested or reinvested as are other funds in the custody of
- 29 the State Treasurer in the manner provided by law. All earnings
- 30 received from the investment or deposit of the funds shall be

- 1 paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the fund.
- 2 Section 505. Registration of bonds.
- 3 The Auditor General shall prepare the necessary registry book
- 4 to be kept in the office of the duly authorized loan and
- 5 transfer agent of the Commonwealth for the registration of any
- 6 bonds, at the request of owners thereof, according to the terms
- 7 and conditions of issue directed by the issuing officials.
- 8 Section 506. Expenses.
- 9 There is hereby appropriated to the State Treasurer from the
- 10 fund as much money as may be necessary for all costs and
- 11 expenses in connection with the issue of and sale and
- 12 registration of the bonds and notes in connection with this act
- 13 and the payment of interest arbitrage rebates or proceeds of
- 14 such bonds and notes.
- 15 Section 507. Temporary financing authorization.
- 16 (a) Authorization. -- Pending the issuance of bonds of the
- 17 Commonwealth as authorized, the issuing officials are hereby
- 18 authorized, in accordance with the provisions of this act and on
- 19 the credit of the Commonwealth, to make temporary borrowings not
- 20 to exceed one year in anticipation to the issue of bonds in
- 21 order to provide funds in such amounts as may, from time to
- 22 time, be deemed advisable prior to the issue of bonds. In order
- 23 to provide for and in connection with such temporary borrowings,
- 24 the issuing officials are hereby authorized in the name and on
- 25 behalf of the Commonwealth to enter into any purchase, loan or
- 26 credit agreement or agreements or other agreement or agreements
- 27 with any banks or trust companies or other lending institutions,
- 28 investment banking firms or persons in the United States having
- 29 power to enter into the same, which agreements may contain
- 30 provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this act as

- 1 may be authorized by the issuing officials.
- 2 (b) Issuance.--All temporary borrowings made under the
- 3 authorization of this section shall be evidenced by notes of the
- 4 Commonwealth, which shall be issued, from time to time, for such
- 5 amounts not exceeding in the aggregate the applicable statutory
- 6 and constitutional debt limitation, in such form and in such
- 7 denominations and subject to terms and condition of sale and
- 8 issue, prepayment or redemption and maturity, rate or rates of
- 9 interest and time of payment of interest as the issuing
- 10 officials shall authorize and direct and in accordance with this
- 11 act. Such authorization and direction may provide for the
- 12 subsequent issuance of replacement notes to refund outstanding
- 13 notes or replacement notes, which replacement notes shall, upon
- 14 issuance thereof, evidence such borrowing, and may specify such
- 15 other terms and conditions with respect to the notes and
- 16 replacement notes thereby authorized for issuance as the issuing
- 17 officials may determine and direct.
- 18 (c) Replacement notes.--
- (1) When the authorization and direction of the issuing
- 20 officials provide for the issuance of replacement notes, the
- issuing officials are hereby authorized in the name and on
- 22 behalf of the Commonwealth to issue, enter into or authorize
- 23 and direct the State Treasurer to enter into agreements with
- 24 any banks, trust companies, investment banking firms or other
- 25 institutions or persons in the United States having the power
- 26 to enter the same:
- 27 (i) To purchase or underwrite an issue or series of
- issues of notes.
- 29 (ii) To credit, to enter into any purchase, loan or
- 30 credit agreements, to draw moneys pursuant to any such

agreements on the terms and conditions set forth therein and to issue notes as evidence of borrowings made under any such agreements.

- (iii) To appoint as issuing and paying agent or agents with respect to notes.
- (iv) To do all acts as may be necessary or appropriate to provide for the payment, when due, of the interest on and the principal of such notes.

Such agreements may provide for the compensation of any purchasers or underwriters of notes or replacement notes by discounting the purchase price of the notes or by payment of a fixed fee or commission at the time of issuance thereof, and all other costs and expenses, including fees for agreements related to the notes, issuing and paying agent costs and costs and expenses of issuance, may be paid from the proceeds of the notes.

officials provide for the issuance of replacement notes, the State Treasurer shall, at or prior to the time of delivery of these notes or replacement notes, determine the principal amounts, dates of issue, interest rate or rates (or procedures for establishing such rates from time to time), rates of discount, denominations and all other terms and conditions relating to the issuance and shall perform all acts and things necessary to pay or cause to be paid, when due, all principal of and interest on the notes being refunded by replacement notes and to assure that the same may draw upon any moneys available for that purpose pursuant to any purchase, loan or credit agreements established with respect thereto, all subject to the authorization and

- direction of the issuing officials.
- 2 (d) Refunding bonds. -- Outstanding notes evidencing the
- 3 borrowings may be funded and retired by the issuance and sale of
- 4 the bonds of the Commonwealth as hereinafter authorized. The
- 5 refunding bonds must be issued and sold not later than a date
- 6 one year after the date of issuance of the first notes
- 7 evidencing such borrowings to the extent that payment of such
- 8 notes has not otherwise been made or provided for by sources
- 9 other than proceeds of replacement notes.
- 10 (e) Proceeds.--The proceeds of all temporary borrowing shall
- 11 be paid to the State Treasurer to be held and disposed of in
- 12 accordance with the provisions of this act.
- 13 Section 508. Debt retirement.
- 14 (a) Targeted Redevelopment Assistance for Communities Loan
- 15 Sinking Fund. -- All bonds issued under the authority of this act
- 16 shall be redeemed at maturity, together with all interest due,
- 17 from time to time, on the bonds, and these principal and
- 18 interest payments shall be paid from the Targeted Redevelopment
- 19 Assistance for Communities Loan Sinking Fund, which is hereby
- 20 created. For the specific purpose of redeeming the bonds at
- 21 maturity and paying all interest thereon in accordance with the
- 22 information received from the Governor, the General Assembly
- 23 shall appropriate moneys to the Targeted Redevelopment
- 24 Assistance for Communities Loan Sinking Fund for the payment of
- 25 interest on the bonds and notes and the principal thereof at
- 26 maturity. All moneys paid into the Targeted Redevelopment
- 27 Assistance for Communities Loan Sinking Fund and all of the
- 28 moneys not necessary to pay accruing interest shall be invested
- 29 by the State Treasurer in such securities as are provided by law
- 30 for the investment of the sinking funds of the Commonwealth.

- 1 (b) Report.--The State Treasurer shall determine and report
- 2 to the Secretary of the Budget by November 1 of each year, the
- 3 amount of money necessary for the payment of interest on
- 4 outstanding obligations and the principal of the obligations, if
- 5 any, for the following fiscal year and the times and amounts of
- 6 the payments. It shall be the duty of the Governor to include in
- 7 every budget submitted to the General Assembly full information
- 8 relating to the issuance of bonds and notes under the provisions
- 9 of this act and the status of the Targeted Redevelopment
- 10 Assistance for Communities Loan Sinking Fund of the Commonwealth
- 11 for the payment of interest on the bonds and notes and the
- 12 principal thereof at maturity.
- 13 (c) Appropriation. -- The General Assembly shall appropriate
- 14 an amount equal to the sums that may be necessary to meet
- 15 repayment obligations for principal and interest for deposit
- 16 into the Targeted Redevelopment Assistance for Communities Loan
- 17 Sinking Fund.
- 18 Section 509. Annual limitation on debt obligations issued.
- 19 Bonds and notes, not including refunding bonds or replacement
- 20 notes, as authorized in this act, shall not be issued in the
- 21 aggregate principal amount of more than \$140,000,000 during any
- 22 one State fiscal year.
- 23 Section 510. Expiration.
- 24 Authorization to issue bonds and notes, not including
- 25 refunding bonds and replacement notes, for the purposes of this
- 26 act shall expire five years from the effective date of this
- 27 section.
- 28 CHAPTER 21
- 29 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
- 30 Section 2101. Additional powers and duties of department.

- 1 (a) Rules and forms.--The department shall promulgate such
- 2 guidelines, rules and regulations and forms as the department
- 3 deems necessary to implement and carry out the provisions of
- 4 this act.
- 5 (b) Annual reports.--On or before September 30 of each year,
- 6 the department shall provide a report to the Secretary of the
- 7 Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives. The
- 8 report shall describe all relevant activities of the department
- 9 under this act and shall include the following information:
- 10 (1) A list of municipalities receiving loans from the
- department and the amounts and terms of this assistance.
- 12 (2) The source and amount of private investment for each
- 13 project.
- 14 (3) Loan amounts repaid by the municipality.
- 15 (4) Loans outstanding and balances due, including
- 16 delinquent payments.
- 17 (5) Jobs created through projects financed under the
- 18 program.
- 19 (6) Other relevant information as determined by the
- department.
- 21 Section 2102. Nondiscrimination.
- No loan shall be made to an applicant under this act unless
- 23 the applicant certifies to the department, in a form
- 24 satisfactory to the department, that it shall not discriminate
- 25 against any employee or against any applicant for employment
- 26 because of race, religion, color, national origin, sex or age.
- 27 Section 2103. Conflict of interest.
- 28 No officer or employee of the Commonwealth or of the
- 29 applicant shall, either directly or indirectly, have an adverse
- 30 interest, as defined in the act of July 19, 1957 (P.L.1017,

- 1 No.451), known as the State Adverse Interest Act, in a project
- 2 financed with funds made available through this program.
- 3 Section 2105. Effective date.
- 4 This act shall take effect in 60 days.