

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1853 Session of
2005

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, CLYMER, ARMSTRONG, CAPPELLI, CAUSER,
FAIRCHILD, GOOD, M. KELLER, MAJOR, McILHATTAN, MUSTIO,
SATHER, SCAVELLO, SONNEY AND R. STEVENSON, JULY 3, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
JULY 3, 2005

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 17, 1929 (P.L.1798, No.591), entitled
2 "An act providing a fixed charge, payable by the
3 Commonwealth, on lands acquired by the State and the Federal
4 Government for forest reserves, or for the purpose of
5 preserving and perpetuating a portion of the original forests
6 of Pennsylvania, and preserving and maintaining the same as
7 public places and parks; and the distribution of the same for
8 county, school, township, and road purposes in the counties,
9 school districts, and townships where such forests are
10 located; and making an appropriation," providing for
11 distribution from the State Gaming Fund to certain counties,
12 townships and school districts; and repealing provisions in
13 the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act
14 relating to certain transfers from the State Gaming Fund.

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

17 Section 1. Section 2 of the act of May 17, 1929 (P.L.1798,
18 No.591), referred to as the Forest Reserves Municipal Financial
19 Relief Law, is amended to read:

20 Section 2. The Secretary of [Forests and Waters]
21 Conservation and Natural Resources shall certify to the
22 respective counties, school districts, and townships throughout
23 the Commonwealth, in which such lands are located, the number of

1 acres owned by the Commonwealth and the United States Government
2 in each county, school district, or township, upon application
3 of the treasurer or [road supervisors] governing body of any of
4 the said counties, school districts, or townships, and the
5 charge against the same; and shall furthermore certify to the
6 State Treasurer the number of acres as aforesaid, and the charge
7 against the same in favor of the respective counties, school
8 districts and townships. The State Treasurer shall, upon
9 requisition of the Secretary of [Forests and Waters, and the
10 warrant of the Auditor General] Conservation and Natural
11 Resources, pay to the several counties, school districts, and
12 townships the amounts due the same from the Commonwealth, and
13 derived under this act, upon due application therefor made by
14 the treasurers or [road supervisors] governing bodies of the
15 said counties, school districts and townships.

16 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

17 Section 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1, the
18 State Treasurer, upon the request of the Secretary of
19 Conservation and Natural Resources, shall annually transfer from
20 the State Gaming Fund established pursuant to 4 Pa.C.S. § 1403
21 (relating to establishment of State Gaming Fund and net slot
22 machine revenue distribution) the following amounts:

23 (a) To each county, eighty cents per acre for each acre of
24 land in the county for which a payment is made under this act or
25 under 34 Pa.C.S. § 708 (relating to payments in lieu of taxes).

26 (b) To each school district, eighty cents per acre for each
27 acre of land in the school district for which a payment is made
28 under this act or under 34 Pa.C.S. § 708.

29 (c) To each township, eighty cents per acre for each acre of
30 land in the township for which a payment is made under this act

1 or under 34 Pa.C.S. § 708.

2 Section 3. Repeals are as follows:

3 (1) The General Assembly declares that the repeal under
4 paragraph (2) is necessary to effectuate the addition of
5 section 3 of the Forest Reserves Municipal Financial Relief
6 Law.

7 (2) The provisions of 4 Pa.C.S. § 1408(d) are repealed.

8 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.