

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1450 Session of  
2009

INTRODUCED BY DEASY, MUSTIO, VULAKOVICH, MATZIE, BRADFORD,  
DERMODY, FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GEORGE, MAHONEY, MELIO,  
MURPHY, READSHAW, CASORIO AND MARSHALL, MAY 6, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, MAY  
6, 2009

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, transferring provisions relating to  
3 environmental advisory councils; providing for the  
4 designation and regulation of geologically hazardous areas  
5 throughout this Commonwealth to protect people and limit  
6 property damage and the disruption of commerce from the  
7 possible dangers associated with land development in areas  
8 that are prone to landslides, sinkholes or other geologic  
9 hazards; imposing duties and conferring powers on the  
10 Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of  
11 Conservation and Natural Resources and municipalities; and  
12 providing for enforcement and remedies.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. Subchapter B of Chapter 23 of Title 53 of the  
16 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is repealed:

17 [SUBCHAPTER B

18 ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

19 Sec.

20 2321. Scope of subchapter.

21 2322. Establishment of environmental advisory council.

22 2323. Composition and organization of council.

1 2324. Powers and duties of council.  
2 2325. Records and reports.  
3 2326. Appropriations for expenses of council.  
4 2327. Status of existing agencies unaffected.  
5 2328. Assistance from State Conservation Commission.  
6 2329. Assistance from Department of Community and Economic  
7 Development.

8 § 2321. Scope of subchapter.

9 This subchapter applies to all municipal corporations.

10 § 2322. Establishment of environmental advisory council.

11 The governing body of any municipal corporation or group of  
12 two or more municipal corporations may by ordinance establish an  
13 environmental advisory council to advise other local  
14 governmental agencies, including, but not limited to, the  
15 planning commission, park and recreation boards and elected  
16 officials, on matters dealing with protection, conservation,  
17 management, promotion and use of natural resources, including  
18 air, land and water resources, located within its or their  
19 territorial limits.

20 § 2323. Composition and organization of council.

21 (a) Composition.--An environmental advisory council shall be  
22 composed of no less than three nor more than seven residents of  
23 the municipal corporation establishing the council, who shall be  
24 appointed and all vacancies filled by the governing body. Where  
25 two or more municipal corporations jointly establish an  
26 environmental advisory council, the members shall be appointed  
27 in the same manner by each of the respective municipal  
28 corporations establishing the council, each constituent  
29 municipal corporation to have equal membership on the joint  
30 council.

1 (b) Term of office.--Council members shall serve for three  
2 years except that initial appointments shall be so staggered  
3 that the terms of approximately one-third of the membership  
4 shall expire each year, the terms of their successors to be of  
5 three years each.

6 (c) Compensation and expenses.--Members shall receive no  
7 compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for the  
8 expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the  
9 performance of their duties.

10 (d) Chairman.--The appointing authority shall designate the  
11 chairman of the council except that in joint councils the  
12 chairman shall be elected by the duly selected members. Whenever  
13 possible, one member shall also be a member of the municipal  
14 planning board.

15 § 2324. Powers and duties of council.

16 (a) General rule.--An environmental advisory council shall  
17 have the power to:

18 (1) Identify environmental problems and recommend plans  
19 and programs to the appropriate agencies for the promotion  
20 and conservation of the natural resources and for the  
21 protection and improvement of the quality of the environment  
22 within its territorial limits.

23 (2) Make recommendations as to the possible use of open  
24 land areas of the municipal corporations within its  
25 territorial limits.

26 (3) Promote a community environmental program.

27 (4) Keep an index of all open areas, publicly or  
28 privately owned, including flood-prone areas, swamps and  
29 other unique natural areas, for the purpose of obtaining  
30 information on the proper use of those areas.

1           (5) Advise the appropriate local government agencies,  
2           including the planning commission and recreation and park  
3           board or, if none, the elected governing body or bodies  
4           within its territorial limits, in the acquisition of both  
5           real and personal property by gift, purchase, grant, bequest,  
6           easement, devise or lease, in matters dealing with the  
7           purposes of this subchapter.

8           (b) Limitation.--An environmental advisory council shall not  
9           exercise any powers or perform any duties which by law are  
10          conferred or imposed upon a Commonwealth agency.

11       § 2325. Records and reports.

12          An environmental advisory council shall keep records of its  
13          meetings and activities and shall make an annual report which  
14          shall be printed in the annual report of the municipal  
15          corporation or, if none, otherwise made known and available.

16       § 2326. Appropriations for expenses of council.

17          The governing body of any municipal corporation establishing  
18          an environmental advisory council may appropriate funds for the  
19          expenses incurred by the council. Appropriations may be expended  
20          for those administrative, clerical, printing and legal services  
21          as may be required and as shall be within the limit of funds  
22          appropriated to the council. The whole or any part of any funds  
23          so appropriated in any year may be placed in a conservation fund  
24          and allowed to accumulate from year to year or may be expended  
25          in any year.

26       § 2327. Status of existing agencies unaffected.

27          This subchapter shall not be construed to require a municipal  
28          corporation to abolish an existing commission with a related  
29          responsibility or to prevent its establishment.

30       § 2328. Assistance from State Conservation Commission.

1       The State Conservation Commission shall establish a program  
2 of assistance to environmental advisory councils that may  
3 include educational services, exchange of information,  
4 assignment of technical personnel for natural resources planning  
5 assistance and the coordination of State and local conservation  
6 activities.

7   § 2329. Assistance from Department of Community and Economic  
8               Development.

9       The Department of Community and Economic Development shall  
10 establish a program of assistance to environmental advisory  
11 councils in planning for the management, use and development of  
12 open space and recreation areas.]

13       Section 2. Title 53 is amended by adding a part to read:

14                               PART VI

15                               ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

16   Subpart

17       A. Environmental Planning

18       B. Special Considerations

19                               SUBPART A

20                               ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

21   Chapter

22       71. Environmental Advisory Councils

23                               CHAPTER 71

24                               ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

25   Sec.

26   7101. Scope of chapter.

27   7102. Establishment of environmental advisory council.

28   7103. Composition and organization of council.

29   7104. Powers and duties of council.

30   7105. Records and reports.

1 7106. Appropriations for expenses of council.  
2 7107. Status of existing agencies unaffected.  
3 7108. Assistance from State Conservation Commission.  
4 7109. Assistance from Department of Community and Economic  
5 Development.

6 § 7101. Scope of chapter.

7 This chapter applies to all municipal corporations.

8 § 7102. Establishment of environmental advisory council.

9 The governing body of any municipal corporation or group of  
10 two or more municipal corporations may by ordinance establish an  
11 environmental advisory council to advise other local  
12 governmental agencies, including, but not limited to, the  
13 planning commission, park and recreation boards and elected  
14 officials, on matters dealing with protection, conservation,  
15 management, promotion and use of natural resources, including  
16 air, land and water resources, located within its or their  
17 territorial limits.

18 § 7103. Composition and organization of council.

19 (a) Composition.--An environmental advisory council shall be  
20 composed of not less than three nor more than seven residents of  
21 the municipal corporation establishing the council who shall be  
22 appointed and all vacancies filled by the governing body. Where  
23 two or more municipal corporations jointly establish an  
24 environmental advisory council, the members shall be appointed  
25 in the same manner by each of the respective municipal  
26 corporations establishing the council, each constituent  
27 municipal corporation shall have equal membership on the joint  
28 council.

29 (b) Term of office.--Council members shall serve for three  
30 years except that initial appointments shall be so staggered

1 that the terms of approximately one-third of the membership  
2 shall expire each year, the terms of their successors shall be  
3 three years each.

4 (c) Compensation and expenses.--Members shall receive no  
5 compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for the  
6 expenses actually and necessarily incurred by them in the  
7 performance of their duties.

8 (d) Chairman.--The appointing authority shall designate the  
9 chairman of the council, except that in joint councils, the  
10 chairman shall be elected by the duly selected members. Whenever  
11 possible, one member shall also be a member of the municipal  
12 planning board.

13 § 7104. Powers and duties of council.

14 (a) General rule.--An environmental advisory council shall  
15 have the power to:

16 (1) Identify environmental problems and recommend plans  
17 and programs to the appropriate agencies for the promotion  
18 and conservation of the natural resources and for the  
19 protection and improvement of the quality of the environment  
20 within its territorial limits.

21 (2) Make recommendations as to the possible use of open  
22 land areas of the municipal corporations within the council's  
23 territorial limits.

24 (3) Promote a community environmental program.

25 (4) Keep an index of all open areas, publicly or  
26 privately owned, including flood-prone areas, swamps and  
27 other unique natural areas, for the purpose of obtaining  
28 information on the proper use of those areas.

29 (5) Advise the appropriate local government agencies,  
30 including the planning commission and recreation and park

1 board or, if none, the elected governing body or bodies  
2 within the council's territorial limits, in the acquisition  
3 of both real and personal property by gift, purchase, grant,  
4 bequest, easement, devise or lease, in matters dealing with  
5 the purposes of this chapter.

6 (b) Limitation.--An environmental advisory council shall not  
7 exercise any powers or perform any duties which by law are  
8 conferred or imposed upon a Commonwealth agency.

9 § 7105. Records and reports.

10 An environmental advisory council shall keep records of its  
11 meetings and activities and shall make an annual report which  
12 shall be printed in the annual report of the municipal  
13 corporation or, if none, otherwise made known and available.

14 § 7106. Appropriations for expenses of council.

15 The governing body of any municipal corporation establishing  
16 an environmental advisory council may appropriate funds for the  
17 expenses incurred by the council. Appropriations may be expended  
18 for those administrative, clerical, printing and legal services  
19 as may be required and as shall be within the limit of funds  
20 appropriated to the council. The whole or any part of any funds  
21 so appropriated in any year may be placed in a conservation fund  
22 and allowed to accumulate from year to year or may be expended  
23 in any year.

24 § 7107. Status of existing agencies unaffected.

25 This chapter shall not be construed to require a municipal  
26 corporation to abolish an existing commission with a related  
27 responsibility or to prevent its establishment.

28 § 7108. Assistance from State Conservation Commission.

29 The State Conservation Commission shall establish a program  
30 of assistance to environmental advisory councils that may



include educational services, exchange of information,  
assignment of technical personnel for natural resources planning  
assistance and the coordination of State and local conservation  
activities.

§ 7109. Assistance from Department of Community and Economic  
Development.

The Department of Community and Economic Development shall  
establish a program of assistance to environmental advisory  
councils in planning for the management, use and development of  
open space and recreation areas.

## SUBPART B

### SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

#### Chapter

#### 75. Geologically Hazardous Areas

### CHAPTER 75

### GEOLOGICALLY HAZARDOUS AREAS

#### Subchapter

#### A. Preliminary Provisions

#### B. Agency and Municipal Responsibilities

#### C. Enforcement and Remedies

#### D. Miscellaneous Provisions

### SUBCHAPTER A

### PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

#### Sec.

7501. Short title of chapter.

7502. Purpose.

7503. Definitions.

§ 7501. Short title of chapter.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the  
Geologically Hazardous Areas Act.

1 § 7502. Purpose.

2 The purpose of this chapter is to:

3 (1) Protect people and property from the dangers and  
4 damage associated with earth disturbance activity in  
5 geologically hazardous areas that may be prone to landslides  
6 or sinkholes and other hazardous conditions, such as  
7 hazardous rock and soil slippage, and other soil management  
8 problems.

9 (2) Recognize and minimize the man-made conditions that  
10 increase the potential for:

11 (i) Landslides and other gravity-driven movements of  
12 susceptible rock and soil.

13 (ii) Sinkhole development and related subsidence in  
14 soluble units.

15 (iii) Degradation of surface and groundwater  
16 resources associated with the alteration of geologic  
17 conditions.

18 (3) Authorize a comprehensive and coordinated program to  
19 regulate earth disturbance activity in geologically hazardous  
20 areas using sound land use practices designed to prevent  
21 damage to and destruction of private and public property and  
22 structures, to prevent the disruption of commerce and  
23 preserve and restore the natural ecological systems.

24 (4) Encourage administration, management and stewardship  
25 of geologically hazardous areas consistent with the  
26 obligation to avoid the unnecessary expenditure of public  
27 moneys, the Commonwealth's duty as trustee of natural  
28 resources and the people's constitutional right to the  
29 preservation of the natural, scenic, aesthetic and historic  
30 values of the environment.

1 § 7503. Definitions.

2 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter  
3 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
4 context clearly indicates otherwise:

5 "Closed depression." Part of the land surface on a site that  
6 drains internally, has generally sunk to a variable depth and is  
7 generally characterized by a downward movement of soil into  
8 bedrock voids without breaking the ground surface.

9 "Department." The Department of Environmental Protection of  
10 the Commonwealth.

11 "Earth disturbance activity." A construction or other human  
12 activity that disturbs the surface of the land, including, but  
13 not limited to, land clearing and grubbing, grading,  
14 excavations, embankments, land development, agricultural plowing  
15 or tilling cultivation, operation of animal heavy use areas,  
16 timber harvesting activities, road maintenance activities, oil  
17 and gas activities, well drilling, mineral or oil extraction and  
18 the moving, depositing, stockpiling or storing of soil, rock or  
19 earth materials.

20 "Geologically hazardous area." An area with geologic  
21 formations or soil conditions, or both, that under natural  
22 conditions or when disturbed are documented by a licensed  
23 professional to be geologically susceptible to cause, or  
24 historically have caused, a hazardous condition.

25 "Hazardous condition." Any condition that may include, but  
26 not be limited to, a mass earth movement, such as a soil and  
27 rock slide, acid formation or sinkhole development, that:

- 28 (1) has a negative environmental impact;  
29 (2) constitutes a danger or potential danger to life,  
30 health or property; or

1       (3) threatens the safety, use or stability of property,  
2       public ways, structures or utilities.

3       "Karst." A type of topography that is formed over limestone,  
4       dolomite or gypsum by bedrock solution and characterized by  
5       closed depressions or sinkholes, caves and underground drainage.

6       "Licensed professional." A person licensed by the  
7       Commonwealth in the applicable practice under the act of May 23,  
8       1945 (P.L.913, No.367), known as the Engineer, Land Surveyor and  
9       Geologist Registration Law.

10      "Sinkhole." A surface feature that is:

11           (1) formed in a karst area;

12           (2) characterized by a roughly circular hole in the  
13           ground of variable size and depth; and

14           (3) the result of the movement of soil, rocks or similar  
15           materials down into voids in the limestone bedrock or  
16           regolith.

17                           SUBCHAPTER B

18                           AGENCY AND MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

19       Sec.

20       7511. Duties of Department of Conservation and Natural  
21           Resources.

22       7512. Geologic reports.

23       7513. Duties of department.

24       7514. Inspections.

25       7515. Liability.

26       7516. Conditioned approval by municipality.

27       § 7511. Duties of Department of Conservation and Natural  
28           Resources.

29       (a) General rule.--The Department of Conservation and  
30       Natural Resources shall:

1       (1) Develop techniques and criteria for mapping  
2 geologically hazardous areas in this Commonwealth.

3       (2) Identify and delineate geologically hazardous areas  
4 in this Commonwealth.

5       (3) Analyze:

6           (i) The type and nature of rock and soil susceptible  
7 to acid formation, a landslide, a sinkhole or development  
8 of karst that may result in a hazardous condition.

9           (ii) Other relevant factors determined by the  
10 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

11       (4) Create an inventory of data developed under this  
12 section that is publicly available.

13       (5) Notify the municipalities identified as falling  
14 within a geologically hazardous area or having within their  
15 boundaries a geologically hazardous area.

16       (b) Report.--Within two years following enactment of this  
17 chapter, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
18 shall report to the General Assembly the information gathered  
19 under subsection (a), including the mapping of geologically  
20 hazardous areas of high priority, as defined by the Department  
21 of Conservation and Natural Resources, and a projected plan to  
22 continue gathering the information directed by subsection (a).

23       (c) Review and update.--The Department of Conservation and  
24 Natural Resources shall periodically review and update the  
25 following, which shall be forwarded to the department:

26           (1) The techniques and criteria for mapping geologically  
27 hazardous areas in this Commonwealth.

28           (2) The maps of geologically hazardous areas in this  
29 Commonwealth.

30       (d) Performance of duties.--In performing its duties under

1 this section, the Department of Conservation and Natural

2 Resources shall:

3 (1) Review aerial photographs and maps, soil data and  
4 geologic information, which may include:

5 (i) Data and reports from other departments.

6 (ii) Geologic reports under section 7512 (relating  
7 to geologic reports).

8 (2) Perform site visits and studies as necessary.

9 (e) Publication of hazardous areas.--The Department of  
10 Conservation and Natural Resources shall publish in the  
11 Pennsylvania Bulletin a list of all municipalities that fall  
12 within a geologically hazardous area or have geologically  
13 hazardous areas within their boundaries, as identified and  
14 delineated under subsection (a)(2). The list shall be published  
15 at least annually and more often if updated, but at least 30  
16 days prior to the municipality being officially designated.

17 (f) Regulations.--The Department of Conservation and Natural  
18 Resources may promulgate regulations necessary to implement this  
19 section.

20 § 7512. Geologic reports.

21 (a) General rule.--A person proposing to undertake earth  
22 disturbance activity within a geologically hazardous area shall  
23 submit a geologic report, prepared and sealed by a licensed  
24 professional, to the municipality and department or its  
25 delegated designee, along with:

26 (1) any application to discharge pollutants or storm  
27 water under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System  
28 Permit for Discharges Associated with Construction Activities  
29 or any other authorization relating to earthmoving  
30 activities;

1       (2) a plan to control erosion and sediment required  
2       under departmental rules and regulations; or

3       (3) a plan to manage postconstruction storm water  
4       required under departmental rules and regulations.

5       (b) Additional requirements.--In addition to the application  
6       requirements for the items set forth in subsection (a), a  
7       geologic report under this section must adequately identify the  
8       proposed courses of action and their sequence, to be taken  
9       during and after construction to eliminate or reduce the  
10       occurrence of a hazardous condition as a result of the proposed  
11       earth disturbance activity.

12       (c) Fees.--A person submitting a geologic report under this  
13       section shall be responsible for all fees involving the  
14       preparation and review of the report.

15       (d) Review.--The department, its delegated designee or a  
16       municipality may have a geologic report submitted under this  
17       section reviewed by a licensed professional independent from the  
18       preparer and sealer of the submitted report.

19       (e) Scope.--This section shall not apply to a municipality  
20       engaging in road construction and maintenance activities.

21       § 7513. Duties of department.

22       (a) Approval.--The department may authorize earth  
23       disturbance activity in a geologically hazardous area in  
24       accordance with applicable laws and regulations if the  
25       department determines that the geologic report under section  
26       7512 (relating to geologic reports) adequately identifies the  
27       proposed courses of action to be taken during and after  
28       construction to eliminate or reduce the occurrence of a  
29       hazardous condition as a result of the proposed earth  
30       disturbance activity.

1 (b) Disapproval.--The department may refuse to authorize  
2 earth disturbance activity in a geologically hazardous area if  
3 the geologic report under section 7512 fails to adequately  
4 identify proposed courses of action to be taken during and after  
5 construction to eliminate or reduce the occurrence of a  
6 hazardous condition as a result of the proposed earth  
7 disturbance activity.

8 (c) Delegation of permit review.--The department may  
9 delegate its permit review, enforcement and inspection authority  
10 under this chapter to a county conservation district.

11 (d) Duties.--In issuing orders or permits, and in taking any  
12 other action under this chapter, the department shall:

13 (1) Review and take appropriate action on all permit  
14 applications submitted under this chapter and issue, modify,  
15 suspend, limit, renew or revoke permits under this chapter  
16 and departmental regulations.

17 (2) Receive and act upon written complaints.

18 (3) Issue orders necessary to implement this chapter or  
19 departmental regulations.

20 (e) Regulations.--The Environmental Quality Board may  
21 promulgate regulations necessary to implement this chapter.

22 § 7514. Inspections.

23 (a) Condition.--Approval of earth disturbance activity  
24 within a geologically hazardous area may be conditioned upon the  
25 granting of permission for an agent or employee of a  
26 municipality or the department to:

27 (1) Enter a property to survey a geologically hazardous  
28 area or ascertain the location of a structure.

29 (2) Enter a property or structure to ascertain  
30 compliance or noncompliance with this chapter, municipal and



Commonwealth law, regulation, approval, conditional approval or order.

(b) Inspection warrant.--If an agent or employee of a municipality or the department charged with the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter has been improperly refused access to the property to survey or inspect as authorized by subsection (a) or reasonably requires access to the property without prior notice to the owner, the agent or employee of the municipality or the department may apply for an inspection warrant to any Commonwealth official authorized by law to issue a search or inspection warrant to permit the agent or employee of the municipality or the department to access and inspect the property. In determining whether to issue an inspection warrant, sufficient probable cause is that the inspection is necessary to properly enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(c) Grounds.--The department shall promptly inspect earth disturbance activity within a geologically hazardous area when the municipality presents information to the department that gives the department probable cause to believe that there is a violation of this chapter, including a violation of regulation, approval, conditional approval or order issued under this chapter. The department shall notify the municipality of this inspection and allow a municipal inspector from the municipality to accompany the departmental inspector during the inspection. If the department determines that there is insufficient information to give the department probable cause to believe that a violation is occurring or has occurred, the department shall promptly provide a written explanation to the municipality of its decision not to inspect.

§ 7515. Liability.

1 (a) General rule.--Approval, conditional approval or  
2 issuance of a permit under this chapter does not:

3 (1) relieve a person from liability for damage to  
4 persons or property resulting from the issuance or  
5 compliance, or as otherwise imposed by law; or

6 (2) impose any liability for damages to persons or  
7 property on the municipality or Commonwealth or its officers,  
8 employees or agents.

9 (b) Costs.--Any person conducting earth disturbance activity  
10 in violation of this chapter or a regulation or order under this  
11 chapter is liable for the costs of abatement of any pollution  
12 and any public nuisance caused by the violation.

13 § 7516. Conditioned approval by municipality.

14 A municipality may not finally approve a proposal involving  
15 earth disturbance activity under this chapter unless and until  
16 the department approves the earth disturbance activity, but a  
17 municipality may conditionally approve a proposal involving  
18 earth disturbance activity under this chapter, subject to  
19 approval or conditional approval by the department.

## 20 SUBCHAPTER C

### 21 ENFORCEMENT AND REMEDIES

22 Sec.

23 7521. Enforcement and remedies.

24 § 7521. Enforcement and remedies.

25 (a) Unlawful conduct.--It is unlawful to:

26 (1) Fail to comply with any departmental rule,  
27 regulation, order, permit or license.

28 (2) Violate this chapter or any rule or regulation  
29 adopted under this chapter.

30 (3) Hinder, obstruct, prevent or interfere with the

department, its personnel or any delegated designee in the performance of any duty under this chapter.

(b) Remedies and enforcement under The Clean Streams Law.--  
Except as provided in subsection (c), for purposes of  
enforcement of this chapter and remedies under this chapter, the  
act of June 22, 1937 (P.L.1987, No.394), known as The Clean  
Streams Law, shall govern.

(c) Scope.--Nothing in subsection (b) is intended to broaden  
the scope of persons that must comply with the provisions of  
this chapter.

(d) Construction.--An offense that constitutes a violation  
of this chapter and The Clean Streams Law shall not result in  
dual penalties.

#### SUBCHAPTER D

#### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec.

7531. Administration.

7532. Effect on other law.

§ 7531. Administration.

The General Assembly shall appropriate the funds necessary to  
implement this chapter.

§ 7532. Effect on other law.

Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to  
create additional review powers already regulated by other law.

Section 3. The addition of 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 71 is a  
continuation of 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 23 Subch. B. The provisions of  
this act shall not affect any act done, liability incurred,  
right accrued or vested or any suit or prosecution pending or to  
be instituted under the authority of 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 23 Subch. B.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.