
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1285 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY CUTLER, NEUMAN, THOMAS, BIZZARRO, V. BROWN, KORTZ,
GRELL, HENNESSEY, MURT, READSHAW, FABRIZIO, COHEN, D. COSTA,
MILLER, QUINN AND FLECK, APRIL 30, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, APRIL 30, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
17 and commissions; and prescribing the manner in which the
18 number and compensation of the deputies and all other
19 assistants and employes of certain departments, boards and
20 commissions shall be determined," providing for the State
21 Geospatial Coordinating Board.

22 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
23 hereby enacts as follows:

24 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
25 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a
26 section to read:

1 Section 432.1. State Geospatial Coordinating Board.--(a)
2 The State Geospatial Coordinating Board shall be an advisory
3 board within the Governor's Office with the same status under
4 this act as that of other advisory boards. The board is
5 established to provide advice and recommendations to the
6 Governor and the citizens of this Commonwealth on geospatial
7 issues, providing for uniformity, data standards, coordination
8 and the efficiency of geospatial policy and technology issues
9 among Federal, State and local government agencies, academic
10 institutions and the private sector.

11 (b) (1) The State Geospatial Coordinating Board shall
12 consist of the following members:

13 (i) The Secretary of Administration or a designee.

14 (ii) The Secretary of Environmental Protection or a
15 designee.

16 (iii) The Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources or
17 a designee.

18 (iv) The Director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management
19 Agency, or its successor agency, or a designee.

20 (v) The Secretary of Transportation or a designee.

21 (vi) The Secretary of General Services or a designee.

22 (vii) One member designated by the President pro tempore of
23 the Senate.

24 (viii) One member designated by the Minority Leader of the
25 Senate.

26 (ix) One member designated by the Speaker of the House of
27 Representatives.

28 (x) One member designated by the Minority Leader of the
29 House of Representatives.

30 (xi) Three members appointed by the Governor as follows:

1 (A) One member shall be a county commissioner at the time of
2 appointment.

3 (B) One member shall be a local elected official
4 representing an urban or suburban Pennsylvania community.

5 (C) One member shall be a local elected official
6 representing a rural Pennsylvania community.

7 (xii) One member designated by the County Geographic
8 Information Systems Professionals Association of Pennsylvania.

9 (xiii) One member designated by the Pennsylvania Mapping and
10 Geographic Information Consortium.

11 (xiv) One member designated by the County Commissioners
12 Association of Pennsylvania.

13 (xv) One member designated by the Pennsylvania Chapter of
14 the Management Association for Private Photogrammetric
15 Surveyors.

16 (2) The members of the board shall include persons
17 knowledgeable in the fields related to geographic information
18 systems, such as geospatial technology, data development,
19 architecture standards, data sharing, county government, local
20 government, municipal planning and municipal authorities. The
21 appointees shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing
22 authority.

23 (c) The board shall also include the following nonvoting ex
24 officio members or their designees, who shall have all the
25 rights of other members, except for voting:

26 (1) The Commonwealth's mapping liaison from the United
27 States Geological Survey.

28 (2) One member designated by the Pennsylvania One Call
29 System.

30 (3) The chairman of the Pennsylvania Public Utility

1 Commission or a designee.

2 (4) One member designated by the Pennsylvania Society of
3 Land Surveyors.

4 (5) One member designated by The Geographic Information
5 System Consortium of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher
6 Education.

7 (6) One member designated by the Pennsylvania Municipal
8 Authorities Association.

9 (7) One member designated by the American Planning
10 Association, Pennsylvania Chapter.

11 (8) The executive director of Pennsylvania Spatial Data
12 Access.

13 (d) The terms of office of members representing State
14 agencies shall coincide with the term of the Governor. In case
15 of a vacancy, the Governor shall make an appointment for the
16 unexpired portion of the term. An organizational designee shall
17 serve a term of three years. In the case of a vacancy, the
18 appropriate organization shall provide a designee for the
19 unexpired portion of the term.

20 (e) The Governor shall designate the chairperson and vice-
21 chairperson of the board from among the members of the board,
22 other than the ex officio and legislative members. The board
23 shall meet not less than four times yearly. Additional meetings
24 shall be at the discretion of the chairperson. Nine members of
25 the board shall constitute a quorum.

26 (f) The members of the board shall serve without
27 compensation but shall be entitled to receive travel and other
28 reasonable expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties.
29 The board may, with the approval of the Governor, appoint and
30 fix the compensation of an executive director who shall be

1 technically qualified for the duties of the office and who shall
2 act as secretary of the board and conduct the work of the board
3 under its supervision.

4 (g) The board shall have the power to employ and fix the
5 compensation of such experts, stenographers and assistants as
6 may be deemed necessary to carry out the work on the board, but
7 due diligence shall be exercised by the board to enlist such
8 voluntary assistance as may be available from citizens, research
9 organizations and other agencies in this Commonwealth or
10 elsewhere, generally recognized as qualified to aid the board.

11 (h) The board shall have the following powers and duties:

12 (1) Recommend data development priorities and
13 interoperability standards for data sharing across agencies and
14 different units of government across this Commonwealth.

15 (2) Monitor national and State trends, identify issues of
16 potential interest and concern to the Commonwealth and prepare
17 for the Governor and the General Assembly on an annual basis, or
18 more often if necessary, reports detailing the findings of the
19 board.

20 (3) Define and prioritize strategic opportunities where maps
21 and spatial analysis activities could enhance the business of
22 government and provide more cost-effective services to citizens.
23 This paragraph may include recommendations of specific
24 geospatial technology investments in this Commonwealth.

25 (4) Develop task forces as needed to formulate recommended
26 positions or actions. The task force membership may be comprised
27 of board members or designees appointed by the board. The board
28 shall consider any task force recommendations at its next
29 meeting.

30 (i) The Office of Administration shall provide assistance to

1 the council as requested by the chairperson of the board.

2 (j) Commonwealth agencies may provide assistance to the
3 board upon request of the chairperson, if sufficient
4 Commonwealth resources exist.

5 (k) This section shall expire on June 30, 2020.

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