
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1988 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY GROVE, O'NEAL, KEEFER, LEWIS, OWLETT, RYAN, JONES,
GLEIM, DUSH, BERNSTINE, MILLARD, BARRAR, B. MILLER, MOUL,
STAATS, THOMAS, KAUFFMAN, TOOHIL, WALSH, GILLEN, ECKER,
DIAMOND AND NELSON, NOVEMBER 19, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, NOVEMBER 19, 2019

AN ACT

1 Providing for the transfer of certain funds and accounts of the
2 Commonwealth to the General Fund.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the General Fund
7 Stabilization Act.

8 Section 2. Legislative findings.

9 The General Assembly finds and declares that:

10 (1) The General Assembly has adopted a number of special
11 funds which are funded by State revenue sources or General
12 Fund tax revenue.

13 (2) The diversion of General Fund revenue into these
14 restricted or special funds have a financial impact on the
15 General Fund.

16 (3) In order to maintain the cash flow of the General
17 Fund throughout the fiscal year, the General Assembly has

1 borrowed money from these funds, which has to be paid back
2 with interest in order to prevent an impact on program
3 funding.

4 (4) The General Assembly can improve the cash flow of
5 the General Fund and prevent unnecessary borrowing by moving
6 these special funds back into the General Fund.

7 (5) The reduction in borrowing from special funds will
8 reduce the Commonwealth's overall debt payments.

9 (6) The transfer of these funds will not impact program
10 funding established under these special funds.

11 Section 3. Definitions.

12 As used in this act, the following words and phrases shall
13 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
14 context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Commonwealth agency." An agency or commission of the
16 executive branch under the policy direction or supervision of
17 the Governor.

18 "Restricted account." An account within the General Fund for
19 designated purposes or programs created by the General Assembly.

20 Section 4. Transfer of certain special funds into the General
21 Fund.

22 (a) Transfers.--Money in the following special funds and
23 accounts within the State Treasury shall be transferred by the
24 State Treasurer into restricted accounts under the same name
25 within the General Fund:

26 (1) Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Fund.

27 (2) Conservation District Fund.

28 (3) Environmental Education Fund.

29 (4) Environmental Stewardship Fund.

30 (5) Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund.

- 1 (6) Historical Preservation Fund.
- 2 (7) Industrial Sites Cleanup Fund.
- 3 (8) Industrial Sites Environmental Assessment Fund.
- 4 (9) Job Training Fund.
- 5 (10) Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund.
- 6 (11) Minority Business Development Fund.
- 7 (12) Property Tax Relief Fund.
- 8 (13) Recycling Fund.
- 9 (14) Small Business First Fund.
- 10 (15) Solid Waste - Resource Recovery Development Fund.
- 11 (16) State Treasury Armory Fund.
- 12 (17) Substance Abuse Education and Demand Reduction
- 13 Fund.

14 (b) Construction.--Nothing in this act shall be construed
15 to:

16 (1) Impact or prevent current disbursements from the
17 funds enumerated in subsection (a) by a Commonwealth agency
18 as enacted currently into law.

19 (2) Impact or prevent disbursements contractually agreed
20 to by a Commonwealth agency under a program created through
21 the funds enumerated in subsection (a).

22 (c) Reference.--A reference to a fund enumerated in
23 subsection (a) under prior law shall be deemed a reference to
24 the corresponding restricted account established by this
25 section.

26 Section 5. Effective date.

27 This act shall take effect in 60 days.