AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 342

Sponsor: SENATOR EICHELBERGER

Printer's No. 1383

- Amend Bill, page 1, lines 2 and 3, by striking out "in 1
- municipal authorities, providing for interest rate risk and
- interest cost management; and," 3
- Amend Bill, page 1, line 3, by inserting after "in" 4
- 5 miscellaneous provisions regarding
- 6 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 5 through 7, by striking out "; and
- expanding the scope of provisions relating" in line 5 and all of 7
- lines 6 and 7 and inserting 8
- , for qualified interest rate management agreements and for
- financial reporting and providing for interest rate risk and 10
- 11 interest cost management in first class cities and counties;
- 12 and making editorial changes.
- 13 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 10 through 19; page 2, lines 1
- 14 through 5; by striking out all of said lines on said pages and
- 15 inserting
- Section 1. The definitions of "independent financial 16
- 17 advisor, " "interest rate management plan" and "qualified
- interest rate management agreement" in section 8002(c) of Title 18
- 19 53 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to
- 20 read:
- 21 Amend Bill, page 2, by inserting between lines 14 and 15
- 22 "Independent financial advisor." A person or entity
- 23 experienced in the financial aspects and risks of interest rate
- 24 management agreements who is retained by a local government unit
- to advise the local government unit with respect to a qualified 25
- 26 interest rate management agreement. The independent financial
- 27 advisor may not be the other party or an affiliate or agent of
- the other party on a qualified interest rate management 28
- 29 agreement with respect to which the independent financial

- 1 advisor is advising a local government unit. For purposes of
- 2 [sections 8281(b)(2)] <u>section 8281.3(b)(2)</u> and (e)(5) (relating
- 3 to qualified interest rate management agreements), the
- 4 independent financial advisor may be retained by a public
- 5 authority.
- Amend Bill, page 4, lines 5 through 30; pages 5 through 8,
- 7 lines 1 through 30; page 9, lines 1 through 10; by striking out
- 8 all of said lines on said pages and inserting
- 9 "Qualified interest rate management agreement." An agreement, including a confirmation evidencing a transaction 10 11 effected under a master agreement, entered into by a local 12 government unit in accordance with and fulfilling the 13 requirements of section [8281] 8281.3 (relating to qualified 14 interest rate management agreements), which agreement in the 15 judgment of the local government unit is designed to manage 16 interest rate risk or interest cost of the local government unit 17 on any debt a local government unit is authorized to incur under this subpart, including, but not limited to, swaps, interest 18 19 rate caps, collars, corridors, ceiling and floor agreements, forward agreements, float agreements and other similar 20 21 arrangements which in the judgment of the local government unit 22 will assist the local government unit in managing the interest 23 rate risk or interest cost of the local government unit.

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Section 2. Section 8281 of Title 53 is repealed: [§ 8281. Qualified interest rate management agreements.

(a) General rule. --

- (1) Except as set forth in paragraph (4), notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a local government unit may negotiate and enter into qualified interest rate management agreements consistent with the provisions of this subchapter.
- (2) The local government unit must authorize and award by resolution each qualified interest rate management agreement or any confirmation of a transaction. The resolution is subject to section 8003(a) and (b) (relating to advertisement and effectiveness of ordinances) but may be valid and effective for all purposes immediately upon adoption or as otherwise provided in the resolution.
- (3) A local government unit has the power to contract for insurance covering the risks of nonpayment of amounts due under qualified interest rate management agreements.
- (4) The authority granted in this subchapter shall not apply to any local government unit which has been declared distressed by the Department of Community and Economic Development.
- 47 (b) Requirements for resolution.—The resolution authorizing 48 and awarding a qualified interest rate management agreement or

authorizing a transaction under the agreement must include in the resolution or as an appendix to the resolution all of the following:

- (1) A copy of the qualified interest rate management agreement or confirmation of the transaction under the qualified interest rate management agreement in substantially the form to be executed pursuant to the resolution.
- (2) The interest rate management plan meeting the requirements under this subpart:
 - (i) adopted by the local government unit; or
 - (ii) if the local government unit is incurring indebtedness under this chapter which has or will be issued to a public authority that has entered into or will enter into an interest rate management agreement meeting the requirements of a qualified interest rate management agreement under this subpart, adopted by that public authority.
- (3) A statement of the manner of the award of the qualified interest rate management agreement under subsection (e).
- (c) Contents of qualified interest rate management agreements.—In addition to other provisions approved by the local government unit, a qualified interest rate management agreement must contain all of the following:
 - (1) The covenant of the local government unit to make payments required by the qualified interest rate management agreement and the covenants authorized by section 8282 (relating to covenant to pay amounts due under qualified interest rate management agreements).
 - (2) The notional amount of the qualified interest rate management agreement and the principal amount of bonds or notes or lease rental debt, or portions of the notional or principal amounts, issued or to be issued by the local government unit under this subpart or guaranteed by the local government unit under this subpart, to which the agreement relates.
 - (3) The term of any qualified interest rate management agreement, which must not exceed the latest maturity date of the bonds or notes referenced in the qualified interest rate management agreement.
 - (4) A provision requiring the termination of the agreement if all debt to which the qualified interest rate management agreement relates is no longer outstanding.
 - (5) The maximum annual interest rate which the local government unit may pay thereunder.
 - (6) A provision that the maximum net payments by fiscal year of a local government unit shall not exceed the maximum interest rate specified in the qualified interest rate management agreement for:
 - (i) periodic scheduled payments, not including any termination payments, due under the qualified interest

- (ii) the interest on the bonds or notes to which the qualified interest rate management agreement relates.
- (7) The source of payment of the payment obligations of the local government unit, which must be either general revenues or revenues specifically identified in the agreement.
- (8) A provision addressing the actions to be taken if the credit rating of the other party changes.
- (9) A provision that periodic scheduled payments due under the qualified interest rate management agreement and debt service due on the related bonds or notes or payments due under the related instrument evidencing lease rental debt or guaranty of the local government unit shall be senior in right and priority of payment to termination payments due under the qualified interest rate management agreement.
- (d) Other provisions of the qualified interest rate management agreement.—The qualified interest rate management agreement may include:
 - (1) A covenant to include any termination payment or similar payment for a qualified interest rate management agreement in its current budget at any time during a fiscal year or in a budget adopted in a future fiscal year.
 - (2) A provision that the following shall be equally and ratably payable and secured under the applicable covenants authorized in section 8282:
 - (i) Periodic scheduled payments due under the qualified interest rate management agreement; and
 - (ii) Any of the following to which the agreement
 relates:
 - (A) the debt service due on the bonds or notes;
 - (B) payment under an instrument evidencing lease rental debt; or
 - (C) payment under a guaranty of the local government unit.
 - (3) A provision that the qualified interest rate management agreement may be terminated at the option of the local government unit without cause but that the qualified interest rate management agreement may not be terminated at the option of the other party to the qualified interest rate management agreement without cause.
- (e) Award of qualified interest rate management agreements.--
 - (1) The local government unit shall establish a process for selecting other parties before entering into a qualified interest rate management agreement.
 - (2) The local government unit shall establish qualifications for other parties before entering into a qualified interest rate management agreement. The qualifications shall include a rating for the other party of at least the third highest rating category from a nationally

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- A qualified interest rate management agreement must be awarded by public sale, private sale by negotiation or private sale by invitation.
- (4) The local government unit shall select the qualified interest rate management agreement which the local government unit determines is in its best financial interest. The qualified interest rate management agreement selected must contain financial terms and conditions which in the opinion of the independent financial advisor to the local government unit are fair and reasonable to the local government unit as of the date of award.
- (5) The local government unit may satisfy the requirements of paragraph (4) by obtaining a finding from an independent financial advisor to the public authority that the financial terms and conditions of the agreement are fair and reasonable to the public authority as of the date of the award if all of the following apply:
 - The local government unit is incurring indebtedness under this chapter which has or will be issued to a public authority.
 - In connection with the incurring of debt under subparagraph (i), the local government unit will become obligated for all or a portion of the public authority's costs under an interest rate management agreement.]

Section 3. Title 53 is amended by adding sections to read: § 8281.1. Definition.

As used in this subchapter, the term "local government unit" means:

- (1) A county, city, borough, incorporated town, township, school district or any unit created by joint action of two or more local government units which is authorized to be created by law and granted the power to issue bonds or incur debt.
- (2) An authority formed prior to the effective date of this section by two or more local government units for the sole purpose of providing loan programs.
- (3) An authority as defined in section 5602 (relating to definitions) and a school district of the first class presently operating under a home rule charter or home rule charter supplement.

The term does not include a city or county of the first class or any unit of local government which has not been granted by statute the power to issue bonds or incur debt.

§ 8281.2. Application of subchapter.

Only a local government unit may enter into an interest rate management agreement, unless otherwise authorized to do so in subchapter G (relating to interest rate risk and interest cost management in first class cities and counties).

§ 8281.3. Qualified interest rate management agreements.

(a) General rule. --

- (2) The local government unit must authorize and award by resolution each qualified interest rate management agreement or any confirmation of a transaction. The resolution is subject to section 8003(a) and (b) (relating to advertisement and effectiveness of ordinances) but may be valid and effective for all purposes immediately upon adoption or as otherwise provided in the resolution.
- (3) A local government unit has the power to contract for insurance covering the risks of nonpayment of amounts due under qualified interest rate management agreements.
- (4) The authority granted in this subchapter shall not apply to any local government unit which has been declared distressed by the Department of Community and Economic Development.
- (5) No payments for consulting, advising, brokering or similar fees incurred to enter into the interest rate management agreements shall be made to or on behalf of a local government unit by the other party to a qualified interest rate management agreement except periodic scheduled payments and termination payments and except if payments are disclosed in conformity with this act and are acknowledged by the local government unit.
- (6) Periodic scheduled payments on a qualified interest rate management agreement must commence not later than three years after the date of execution of any confirmation associated with the qualified interest rate management agreement.
- (7) At the time a qualified interest rate management agreement is entered into, the sum of the notional amount thereof and all other qualified interest rate management agreements entered into or guaranteed, and then in effect of a local government unit, shall not exceed 50% of the total principal amount of the aggregate nonelectoral debt plus lease rental debt capacity of the local government unit then outstanding.
- (8) Scheduled periodic payments and termination payments received by a local government unit on a qualified interest rate management agreement shall be deposited in a payment account to pay periodic swap payments or to pay principal and interest on the debt related to the qualified interest rate management agreement.
- (9) The scheduled expiration date of a qualified interest rate management agreement shall not exceed 10 years from the date of the related confirmation unless the

qualified interest rate management agreement contains a provision allowing the local government unit to terminate the same at any time, or at periodic intervals as shown in the confirmation, after 10 years from the date of the related confirmation without making a termination payment.

- (b) Requirements for resolution. -- The resolution authorizing and awarding a qualified interest rate management agreement or authorizing a transaction under the agreement must include in the resolution or as an appendix to the resolution all of the following:
 - (1) A copy of the qualified interest rate management agreement or confirmation of the transaction under the qualified interest rate management agreement in substantially the form to be executed pursuant to the resolution.
 - (2) The interest rate management plan meeting the requirements under this subpart:
 - (i) approved by the local government unit not less
 than 10 days prior to the date of the resolution; or
 (ii) if the local government unit is incurring
 indebtedness under this chapter which has or will be
 issued to a public authority that has entered into or
 will enter into an interest rate management agreement

meeting the requirements of a qualified interest rate

management agreement under this subpart, approved by that

public authority not less than 10 days prior to the date

of the resolution.

or the resolution.

- (3) A statement of the manner of the award of the qualified interest rate management agreement under subsection (e).
- (c) Contents of qualified interest rate management

 agreements.--In addition to other provisions approved by the

 local government unit, a qualified interest rate management

 agreement must contain all of the following:
 - (1) The covenant of the local government unit to make payments required by the qualified interest rate management agreement and the covenants authorized by section 8282 (relating to covenant to pay amounts due under qualified interest rate management agreements).
 - (2) The notional amount of the qualified interest rate management agreement and the principal amount of bonds or notes or lease rental debt, or portions of the notional or principal amounts, issued or to be issued by the local government unit under this subpart or guaranteed by the local government unit under this subpart, to which the agreement relates.
 - (3) The term of any qualified interest rate management agreement, which must not exceed the latest maturity date of the bonds or notes referenced in the qualified interest rate management agreement.
 - (4) A provision requiring the termination of the agreement when all debt to which the qualified interest rate

used to calculate amounts payable by the local government

1 unit pursuant to the qualified interest rate management agreement is comparable to the rate or rates that it 2 3 would have quoted to receive from or pay to, as 4 applicable, a similarly situated counterparty to enter 5 into a reasonably comparable qualified interest rate 6 management agreement taking into full account the terms 7 and conditions of the qualified interest rate management 8 agreement. 9 (vii) Acknowledges and agrees that it will notify the department in writing promptly upon its receipt of a 10 11 termination payment by the local government unit, 12 including the date and amount of the payment and the identity of the qualified interest rate management 13 agreement under which the payment was made. 14 15 (d) Other provisions of the qualified interest rate management agreement. -- The qualified interest rate management 16 17 agreement may include: 18 (1) A covenant to include any termination payment or 19 similar payment for a qualified interest rate management 20 agreement in its current budget at any time during a fiscal year or in a budget adopted in a future fiscal year. 21 22 (2) A provision that the following shall be equally and 23 ratably payable and secured under the applicable covenants 24 authorized in section 8282: 25 (i) Periodic scheduled payments due under the 26 qualified interest rate management agreement. (ii) Any of the following to which the agreement 27 28 relates: 29 (A) the debt service due on the bonds or notes; (B) payment under an instrument evidencing lease 30 31 rental debt; or (C) payment under a guaranty of the local 32 33 government unit. (3) A provision that the qualified interest rate 34 management agreement may be terminated at the option of the 35 36 local government unit without cause but that the qualified 37 interest rate management agreement may not be terminated at 38 the option of the other party to the qualified interest rate 39 management agreement without cause. (e) Award of qualified interest rate management 40 41 agreements. --42 (1) The local government unit shall establish a process for selecting other parties before entering into a qualified 43 44 interest rate management agreement. 45 (2) The local government unit shall establish qualifications for other parties before entering into a 46 qualified interest rate management agreement. The 47 qualifications shall include a rating for the other party of 48 49 at least the third highest rating category from a nationally

recognized rating agency.

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(3) A qualified interest rate management agreement must

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      be awarded by public sale, private sale by negotiation or
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      private sale by invitation.
          (4) The local government unit shall select the qualified
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       interest rate management agreement which the local government
      unit determines is in its best financial interest. The
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       qualified interest rate management agreement selected must
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       contain financial terms and conditions which in the opinion
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      of the independent financial advisor to the local government
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      unit are fair and reasonable to the local government unit as
      of the date of award.
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           (5) The local government unit may satisfy the
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       requirements of paragraph (4) by obtaining a finding from an
       independent financial advisor to the public authority that
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       the financial terms and conditions of the agreement are fair
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       and reasonable to the public authority as of the date of the
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       award if all of the following apply:
               (i) The local government unit is incurring
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          indebtedness under this chapter which has or will be
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           issued to a public authority.
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               (ii) In connection with the incurring of debt under
          subparagraph (i), the local government unit will become
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          obligated for all or a portion of the public authority's
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           costs under an interest rate management agreement.
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      Amend Bill, page 10, lines 25 through 30; page 11, lines 1
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   through 8; by striking out all of said lines on said pages and
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   inserting
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       Section 4. Chapter 82 of Title 53 is amended by adding a
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   subchapter to read:
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                              SUBCHAPTER G
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            INTEREST RATE RISK AND INTEREST COST MANAGEMENT
                   IN FIRST CLASS CITIES AND COUNTIES
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   Sec.
   8291. Scope of subchapter.
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   8292. Definitions.
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   8293. Interest rate management agreement requirements.
   8294. Notice and retention of records.
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   8295. Financial reporting.
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§ 8291. Scope of subchapter. 38

39 Notwithstanding Subchapter F (relating to interest rate risk 40 and interest cost management), this subchapter shall apply to

interest rate management agreements in cities and counties of 41

42 the first class.

§ 8292. Definitions. 43

The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter 44 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the 45 context clearly indicates otherwise: 46

"Contracting authority." Any of the following that enter 47 48 into an interest rate management agreement under this

- (1) A city of the first class.
- (2) A county of the first class.
- (3) A municipal authority created by a city of the first class under Chapter 56 (relating to municipal authorities) by an entity listed under paragraph (1) or (2).
- "Department." The Department of Community and Economic Development of the Commonwealth.

"Interest rate management agreement." An agreement, including a confirmation evidencing a transaction effected under a master agreement, entered into by a contracting authority in accordance with and fulfilling the requirements of section 8293 (relating to interest rate management agreement requirements), which agreement in the judgment of the contracting authority is designed to manage interest rate risk or interest cost of the contracting authority on any debt or other debt-related obligations a contracting authority is authorized to incur, including, but not limited to, swaps, interest rate caps, collars, corridors, ceiling and floor agreements, forward agreements, float agreements and other similar arrangements which in the judgment of the contracting authority will assist the contracting authority in managing the interest rate risk or interest cost of the contracting authority.

- § 8293. Interest rate management agreement requirements.
- (a) General rule. -- Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, any interest rate management agreement entered into by a contracting authority shall comply with the provisions of this section.
 - (b) Requirements. -- The following requirements shall apply:
 - (1) A contracting authority shall authorize and award by resolution each interest rate management agreement or any confirmation of a transaction.
 - (2) No payments shall be made to or on behalf of a contracting authority by the other party to an interest rate management agreement except periodic scheduled payments, termination payments and attorney fees and other consultant fees incurred in connection with entering into an interest rate management agreement.
 - (3) Periodic scheduled payments on an interest rate management agreement must commence not later than three years after the date of the confirmation associated with the interest rate management agreement.
 - (4) The index or basis used for calculating the periodic scheduled payments receivable by the contracting authority on an interest rate management agreement shall be substantially similar to the index or basis used for calculating the interest due on the associated debt or other debt-related obligations of the contracting authority.
 - (5) At the time an interest rate management agreement is entered into, the sum of the notional amount thereof, without duplication for the notional amount of any offsetting

transactions, and all other interest rate management agreements entered into or guaranteed, and then in effect of a contracting authority, shall not exceed 30% of the total principal amount of the aggregate general obligation debt and other debt-related obligations payable from or supported by its general fund then outstanding. If an interest rate management agreement is payable from or supported by another specified fund or revenues, the limitation shall apply based solely on interest rate management agreements and debt and other debt-related obligations payable from or supported by the specified fund or revenues.

- (6) Scheduled periodic payments and termination payments received by a contracting authority on an interest rate management agreement shall be deposited in a payment account to:
 - (i) Pay periodic swap payments or to pay principal and interest on the debt or debt-related obligations related to the interest rate management agreement.
 - (ii) If the interest rate management agreement described under subparagraph (i) has been terminated and none of the related debt or debt-related obligations are outstanding, pay periodic swap payments on interest rate management agreements or principal and interest on debt or debt-related obligations payable from or supported by the same fund or revenues as the interest rate management agreement described under subparagraph (i).
 - (iii) If all of the interest rate management agreements described under subparagraph (ii) have been terminated and no debt or debt-related obligations described under subparagraph (ii) are outstanding, pay any other obligations of the contracting authority.
- (7) The scheduled expiration date of an interest rate management agreement shall not exceed 10 years from the date of the related confirmation unless the interest rate management agreement contains a provision allowing the contracting authority to terminate the same at any time after 10 years from the date of the related confirmation without making a termination payment.
- (8) An interest rate management agreement shall contain a certification by the other party to the interest rate management agreement in which the other party does all of the following:
 - (i) Acknowledges that the contracting authority which is entering into the interest rate management agreement under this subchapter is a political subdivision of this Commonwealth or a municipal authority created under Chapter 56 (relating to municipal authorities) by a city of the first class or a county of the first class.
 - (iii) Acknowledges that it has read this subchapter.
 (iii) Acknowledges that a contracting authority may

only enter into an interest rate management agreement to manage interest rate risk or interest cost of the contracting authority on debt or other debt-related obligations of the contracting authority.

(iv) Acknowledges and agrees that it will notify the department, in writing, promptly upon the payment to the other party of a termination payment by the contracting authority, including the date and amount of the payment and the identity of the interest rate management agreement under which the payment was made.

§ 8294. Notice and retention of records.

- (a) Notice.--Within 15 days following the adoption of a resolution authorizing an interest rate management agreement, a contracting authority shall file with the department certified copies of the resolution, including any appendix to the resolution, together with an itemized statement of all attorney fees, consultant fees and any other costs expected to be paid on behalf of a contracting authority by the other party to such interest rate management agreement.
- (b) Records.--The department shall keep copies of all documents filed with the department under this section as long as an interest rate management agreement is in effect.

 § 8295. Financial reporting.

A contracting authority which has entered into an interest rate management agreement shall include in its annual financial statements information with respect to each interest rate management agreement it has authorized or entered into, including any information required pursuant to any statement issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Section 5. The following shall apply:

- (1) The amendment or addition of 53 Pa.C.S. \$\$ 8002(c), 8281.1, 8281.2 and 8281.3:
 - (i) Shall apply to all qualified interest rate management agreements entered into on or after the effective date of this section.
 - (ii) Shall not apply to an amendment, termination or novation of a qualified interest rate management agreement where the qualified interest rate management agreement was entered into prior to the effective date of this section, unless the term of the qualified interest rate management agreement is extended and the qualified interest rate management agreement continues to be in effect on or after the effective date of this section.
 - (2) The addition of 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 82 Subch. G:
 - (i) Shall apply to all interest rate management agreements entered into by a contracting authority on or after the effective date of this section.
 - (ii) Shall not apply to any amendment, termination or novation of an interest rate management agreement if the interest rate management agreement was entered into prior to the effective date of this section if the term

1	of the interest rate management agreement is not
2	extended.
3	(iii) Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
4	shall apply to an interest rate management agreement
5	entered into by any of the following:
6	(A) A city of the first class.
7	(B) A county of the first class.
8	(C) A municipal authority created under 53
9	Pa.C.S. Ch. 56 by an entity listed under clause (A)
10	or (B).
11	Section 6. This act shall take effect in 60 days.