THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 218

Session of 2007

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, KASUNIC, BOSCOLA, FONTANA, ROBBINS, STOUT, COSTA, FOLMER, ARMSTRONG, PUNT, REGOLA, GORDNER, PILEGGI, ERICKSON, O'PAKE, VANCE, C. WILLIAMS, LOGAN, WAUGH, BRUBAKER, PIPPY, WONDERLING, SCARNATI, BAKER AND FUMO, JANUARY 29, 2007

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, MAY 7, 2007

AN ACT

Amending the act of December 31, 1965 (P.L.1257, No.511), entitled "An act empowering cities of the second class, 3 cities of the second class A, cities of the third class, boroughs, towns, townships of the first class, townships of the second class, school districts of the second class, school districts of the third class and school districts of the fourth class including independent school districts, to 8 levy, assess, collect or to provide for the levying, 9 assessment and collection of certain taxes subject to maximum 10 limitations for general revenue purposes; authorizing the establishment of bureaus and the appointment and compensation 11 12 of officers, agencies and employes to assess and collect such 13 taxes; providing for joint collection of certain taxes, prescribing certain definitions and other provisions for 14 15 taxes levied and assessed upon earned income, providing for annual audits and for collection of delinquent taxes, and 16 17 permitting and requiring penalties to be imposed and enforced, including penalties for disclosure of confidential 18 19 information, providing an appeal from the ordinance or resolution levying such taxes to the court of quarter 20 sessions and to the Supreme Court and Superior Court, " 21 22 providing for local services taxes; repealing provisions 23 relating to emergency and municipal services taxes and to 24 continuation of occupational privilege taxes; and making 25 editorial changes.

- The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 27 hereby enacts as follows:

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- 1 Section 1. Section 2 of the act of December 31, 1965
- 2 (P.L.1257, No.511), known as The Local Tax Enabling Act, amended
- 3 December 1, 2004 (P.L.1729, No.222), is amended to read:
- 4 Section 2. Delegation of Taxing Powers and Restrictions
- 5 Thereon. -- (A) The duly constituted authorities of the following <---
- 6 political subdivisions, cities of the second class, cities of
- 7 the second class A, cities of the third class, boroughs, towns,
- 8 townships of the first class, townships of the second class,
- 9 school districts of the second class, school districts of the
- 10 third class, and school districts of the fourth class, in all
- 11 cases including independent school districts, may, in their
- 12 discretion, by ordinance or resolution, for general revenue
- 13 purposes, levy, assess and collect or provide for the levying,
- 14 assessment and collection of such taxes as they shall determine
- 15 on persons, transactions, occupations, privileges, subjects and
- 16 personal property within the limits of such political
- 17 subdivisions, and upon the transfer of real property, or of any
- 18 interest in real property, situate within the political
- 19 subdivision levying and assessing the tax, regardless of where
- 20 the instruments making the transfers are made, executed or
- 21 delivered or where the actual settlements on such transfer take
- 22 place. The taxing authority may provide that the transferee
- 23 shall remain liable for any unpaid realty transfer taxes imposed
- 24 by virtue of this act. Each local taxing authority may, by
- 25 ordinance or resolution, exempt any person whose total income
- 26 from all sources is less than twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000)
- 27 per annum from the per capita or similar head tax, occupation
- 28 tax [and emergency and municipal services tax,] or earned income
- 29 tax, or any portion thereof, and may adopt regulations for the
- 30 processing of claims for exemptions. Each political subdivision

- 1 <u>levying the local services tax at a rate exceeding ten dollars</u>
- 2 (\$10) shall, and each political subdivision levying the local
- 3 services tax at a rate of ten dollars (\$10) or less may, by
- 4 ordinance or resolution, exempt any person from the local
- 5 services tax whose total income EARNED INCOME AND NET PROFITS
- 6 from all sources WITHIN THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION is less than <--
- 7 twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) for the calendar year in which
- 8 <u>the local services tax is levied. Each political subdivision</u> <-
- 9 <u>providing for exemption shall adopt regulations for the</u>
- 10 processing of refund claims for the local services tax paid by
- 11 <u>any person who is eligible for the exemption. The regulations</u>
- 12 shall be consistent with 53 Pa.C.S. §§ 8425 (relating to refunds
- 13 of overpayments) and 8426 (relating to interest on overpayment).
- 14 Refunds made within seventy five days of a refund request or
- 15 seventy five days after the last day the employer is required to
- 16 remit the local services tax for the last quarter of the
- 17 calendar year under section 9 of this act, whichever is later,
- 18 shall not be subject to interest imposed under 53 Pa.C.S. §
- 19 8426. It is the intent of this section that a political
- 20 subdivision or its tax officer determine eliqibility for the
- 21 exemption and provide refunds to exempt persons from the local
- 22 services tax and that employers shall not be responsible for
- 23 processing an exemption or exempting any employe from the local
- 24 <u>services tax. For purposes of exemption from the local services</u>
- 25 tax, "income from all sources" shall be limited to "earned
- 26 income" and "net profits" as defined in Division I of section
- 27 13. The Department of Community and Economic Development shall
- 28 <u>develop uniform forms to be used by political subdivisions to</u>
- 29 <u>facilitate the refund of the local services tax to any person</u>
- 30 eligible for the exemption. Such local authorities shall not

- 1 (B) (1) A PERSON SEEKING TO CLAIM AN EXEMPTION FROM THE
- 2 LOCAL SERVICES TAX SHALL ANNUALLY FILE AN EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

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- 3 WITH THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION LEVYING THE TAX AND WITH THE
- 4 PERSON'S EMPLOYER AFFIRMING THAT THE PERSON REASONABLY EXPECTS
- 5 TO RECEIVE EARNED INCOME AND NET PROFITS FROM ALL SOURCES WITHIN
- 6 THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF LESS THAN TWELVE THOUSAND DOLLARS
- 7 (\$12,000) IN THE CALENDAR YEAR FOR WHICH THE EXEMPTION
- 8 CERTIFICATE IS FILED. IN THE EVENT THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION
- 9 UTILIZES A TAX COLLECTION OFFICER PURSUANT TO SECTION 10 OF THIS
- 10 ACT, THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF THE
- 11 EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE TO THAT OFFICER. THE EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE
- 12 SHALL HAVE ATTACHED TO IT A COPY OF ALL OF THE EMPLOYE'S LAST
- 13 PAY STUBS OR W-2 FORMS FROM EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THE POLITICAL
- 14 SUBDIVISION FOR THE YEAR PRIOR TO THE FISCAL YEAR FOR WHICH THE
- 15 EMPLOYE IS REQUESTING TO BE EXEMPTED FROM THE LOCAL SERVICES
- 16 TAX. UPON RECEIPT OF THE EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE AND UNTIL
- 17 OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED BY THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION LEVYING THE
- 18 TAX OR EXCEPT AS REQUIRED BY CLAUSE (2), THE EMPLOYER SHALL NOT
- 19 WITHHOLD THE TAX FROM THE PERSON DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR OR THE
- 20 REMAINDER OF THE CALENDAR YEAR FOR WHICH THE EXEMPTION
- 21 <u>CERTIFICATE APPLIES. EMPLOYERS SHALL ENSURE THAT THE EXEMPTION</u>
- 22 CERTIFICATE FORMS ARE READILY AVAILABLE TO EMPLOYES AT ALL TIMES
- 23 AND SHALL FURNISH EACH NEW EMPLOYE WITH A FORM AT THE TIME OF
- 24 HIRING. THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- 25 SHALL DEVELOP AND MAKE AVAILABLE TO POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AND
- 26 EMPLOYERS UNIFORM EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY THIS
- 27 CLAUSE.
- 28 (2) WITH RESPECT TO A PERSON WHO CLAIMED AN EXEMPTION FOR A
- 29 GIVEN CALENDAR YEAR FROM THE TAX LEVIED BY A POLITICAL
- 30 SUBDIVISION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, UPON NOTIFICATION TO AN

- 1 EMPLOYER BY THE PERSON OR BY THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION THAT THE
- 2 PERSON HAS RECEIVED INCOME EQUAL TO OR IN EXCESS OF TWELVE
- 3 THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$12,000) IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR OR THAT THE
- 4 PERSON IS OTHERWISE INELIGIBLE FOR THE TAX EXEMPTION FOR THAT
- 5 CALENDAR YEAR, OR UPON AN EMPLOYER'S PAYMENT TO THE PERSON OF
- 6 INCOME IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO OR IN EXCESS OF TWELVE THOUSAND
- 7 DOLLARS (\$12,000) IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR, AN EMPLOYER SHALL
- 8 WITHHOLD THE TAX LEVIED BY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION UNDER THIS
- 9 <u>SECTION FROM THE PERSON UNDER CLAUSE (3).</u>
- 10 (3) IF A PERSON WHO CLAIMED AN EXEMPTION FOR A GIVEN
- 11 CALENDAR YEAR FROM THE TAX LEVIED BY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION
- 12 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION BECOMES SUBJECT TO THE TAX FOR THE
- 13 CALENDAR YEAR UNDER CLAUSE (2), THE EMPLOYER SHALL WITHHOLD THE
- 14 TAX FOR THE REMAINDER OF THAT CALENDAR YEAR. THE EMPLOYER SHALL
- 15 <u>WITHHOLD FROM THE PERSON, FOR THE FIRST PAYROLL PERIOD AFTER</u>
- 16 RECEIPT OF THE NOTIFICATION UNDER CLAUSE (2), A LUMP SUM EQUAL
- 17 TO THE AMOUNT OF TAX THAT WAS NOT WITHHELD FROM THE PERSON DUE
- 18 TO THE EXEMPTION CLAIMED BY THE PERSON UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.
- 19 THE AMOUNT OF TAX WITHHELD PER PAYROLL PERIOD FOR THE REMAINING
- 20 PAYROLL PERIODS IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR SHALL BE THE SAME AMOUNT
- 21 WITHHELD FOR OTHER EMPLOYES. IN THE EVENT THE EMPLOYMENT OF A
- 22 PERSON SUBJECT TO WITHHOLDING OF THE TAX UNDER THIS CLAUSE IS
- 23 SUBSEQUENTLY SEVERED IN THAT CALENDAR YEAR, THE PERSON SHALL BE
- 24 LIABLE FOR ANY OUTSTANDING BALANCE OF TAX DUE AND THE POLITICAL
- 25 SUBDIVISION LEVYING THE TAX MAY PURSUE COLLECTION UNDER THIS
- 26 <u>ACT.</u>
- 27 (4) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN CLAUSE (2), IT IS THE INTENT OF
- 28 THIS SUBSECTION THAT EMPLOYERS SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR
- 29 INVESTIGATING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES, MONITORING TAX EXEMPTION
- 30 ELIGIBILITY OR EXEMPTING ANY EMPLOYE FROM A TAX IMPOSED UNDER

- 1 THIS SECTION.
- 2 (5) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE TERMS "EARNED
- 3 INCOME AND "NET PROFITS" SHALL HAVE THE SAME MEANINGS AS THOSE
- 4 TERMS ARE GIVEN IN DIVISION I OF SECTION 13.
- 5 (C) SUCH LOCAL AUTHORITIES SHALL NOT have authority by
- 6 virtue of this act:
- 7 (1) To levy, assess and collect or provide for the levying,
- 8 assessment and collection of any tax on the transfer of real
- 9 property when the transfer is by will or mortgage or the
- 10 intestate laws of this Commonwealth or on a transfer by the
- 11 owner of previously occupied residential premises to a builder
- 12 of new residential premises when such previously occupied
- 13 residential premises is taken in trade by such builder as part
- 14 of the consideration from the purchaser of a new previously
- 15 unoccupied single family residential premises or on a transfer
- 16 between corporations operating housing projects pursuant to the
- 17 housing and redevelopment assistance law and the shareholders
- 18 thereof, or on a transfer between nonprofit industrial
- 19 development agencies and industrial corporations purchasing from
- 20 them, or on transfer to or from nonprofit industrial development
- 21 agencies, or on a transfer between husband and wife, or on a
- 22 transfer between persons who were previously husband and wife
- 23 but who have since been divorced; provided such transfer is made
- 24 within three months of the date of the granting of the final
- 25 decree in divorce, or the decree of equitable distribution of
- 26 marital property, whichever is later, and the property or
- 27 interest therein, subject to such transfer, was acquired by the
- 28 husband and wife, or husband or wife, prior to the granting of
- 29 the final decree in divorce, or on a transfer between parent and
- 30 child or the spouse of such a child, or between parent and

- 1 trustee for the benefit of a child or the spouse of such child,
- 2 or on a transfer between a grandparent and grandchild or the
- 3 spouse of such grandchild, or on a transfer between brother and
- 4 sister or brother and brother or sister and sister or the spouse
- 5 of such brother or sister, or on a transfer to a conservancy
- 6 which possesses a tax-exempt status pursuant to section
- 7 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and which has as its
- 8 primary purpose the preservation of land for historic,
- 9 recreational, scenic, agricultural or open space opportunities,
- 10 by and between a principal and straw party for the purpose of
- 11 placing a mortgage or ground rent upon the premises, or on a
- 12 correctional deed without consideration, or on a transfer to the
- 13 United States, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or to any of
- 14 their instrumentalities, agencies or political subdivisions, by
- 15 gift, dedication or deed in lieu of condemnation, or deed of
- 16 confirmation in connection with condemnation proceedings, or
- 17 reconveyance by the condemning body of the property condemned to
- 18 the owner of record at the time of condemnation which
- 19 reconveyance may include property line adjustments provided said
- 20 reconveyance is made within one year from the date of
- 21 condemnation, leases, or on a conveyance to a trustee under a
- 22 recorded trust agreement for the express purpose of holding
- 23 title in trust as security for a debt contracted at the time of
- 24 the conveyance under which the trustee is not the lender and
- 25 requiring the trustee to make reconveyance to the grantor-
- 26 borrower upon the repayment of the debt, or a transfer within a
- 27 family from a sole proprietor family member to a family farm
- 28 corporation, or in any sheriff sale instituted by a mortgagee in
- 29 which the purchaser of said sheriff sale is the mortgagee who
- 30 instituted said sale, or on a privilege, transaction, subject,

- 1 occupation or personal property which is now or does hereafter
- 2 become subject to a State tax or license fee;
- 3 (2) To levy, assess or collect a tax on the gross receipts
- 4 from utility service of any person or company whose rates and
- 5 services are fixed and regulated by the Pennsylvania Public
- 6 Utility Commission or on any public utility services rendered by
- 7 any such person or company or on any privilege or transaction
- 8 involving the rendering of any such public utility service;
- 9 (3) Except on sales of admission to places of amusement_
- 10 OTHER THAN ON SALES OF ADMISSION TO PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL EVENTS
- 11 IN A CITY OF THE THIRD CLASS WITH A POPULATION OF NOT LESS THAN
- 12 ONE HUNDRED SIX THOUSAND AND NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED SEVEN
- 13 THOUSAND BASED ON THE 2000 FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS, or on sales
- 14 or other transfers of title or possession of property, to levy,
- 15 assess or collect a tax on the privilege of employing such
- 16 tangible property as is now or does hereafter become subject to
- 17 a State tax; and for the purposes of this clause, real property
- 18 rented for camping purposes shall not be considered a place of
- 19 amusement.
- 20 (4) To levy, assess and collect a tax on goods and articles
- 21 manufactured in such political subdivision or on the by-products
- 22 of manufacture, or on minerals, timber, natural resources and
- 23 farm products produced in such political subdivision or on the
- 24 preparation or processing thereof for use or market, or on any
- 25 privilege, act or transaction related to the business of
- 26 manufacturing, the production, preparation or processing of
- 27 minerals, timber and natural resources, or farm products, by
- 28 manufacturers, by producers and by farmers with respect to the
- 29 goods, articles and products of their own manufacture,
- 30 production or growth, or on any privilege, act or transaction

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- 1 relating to the business of processing by-products of
- 2 manufacture, or on the transportation, loading, unloading or
- 3 dumping or storage of such goods, articles, products or by-
- 4 products; except that local authorities may levy, assess and
- 5 collect [an emergency and municipal] a local services tax and
- 6 taxes on the occupation, per capita and earned income or net
- 7 profits of natural persons engaged in the above activities
- 8 whether doing business as individual proprietorship or as
- 9 members of partnerships or other associations;
- 10 (5) To levy, assess or collect a tax on salaries, wages,
- 11 commissions, compensation and earned income of nonresidents of
- 12 the political subdivisions: Provided, That this limitation (5)
- 13 shall apply only to school districts of the second, third and
- 14 fourth classes;
- 15 (6) To levy, assess or collect a tax on personal property
- 16 subject to taxation by counties or on personal property owned by
- 17 persons, associations and corporations specifically exempted by
- 18 law from taxation under the county personal property tax law:
- 19 Provided, That this limitation (6) shall not apply to cities of
- 20 the second class;
- 21 (7) To levy, assess or collect a tax on membership in or
- 22 membership dues, fees or assessment of charitable, religious,
- 23 beneficial or nonprofit organizations including but not limited
- 24 to sportsmens, recreational, golf and tennis clubs, girl and boy
- 25 scout troops and councils;
- 26 (8) To levy, assess or collect any tax on a mobilehome or
- 27 house trailer subject to a real property tax unless the same tax
- 28 is levied, assessed and collected on other real property in the
- 29 political subdivision.
- 30 (9) To levy, assess or collect any tax on individuals for

- 1 the privilege of engaging in an occupation [(emergency and
- 2 municipal services tax)] except that such a tax, to be known as
- 3 the local services tax, may be levied, assessed and collected
- 4 only by the political subdivision of the taxpayer's place of
- 5 employment.
- 6 [Payment of any emergency and municipal services tax to any
- 7 political subdivision by any person pursuant to an ordinance or
- 8 resolution passed or adopted under the authority of this act
- 9 shall be no less than ten dollars (\$10) nor more than fifty-two
- 10 dollars (\$52) on each person for each calendar year.
- 11 The situs of such tax shall be the place of employment, but,
- 12 in the event a person is engaged in more than one occupation, or
- 13 an occupation which requires his working in more than one
- 14 political subdivision during the calendar year, the priority of
- 15 claim to collect such emergency and municipal services tax shall
- 16 be in the following order: first, the political subdivision in
- 17 which a person maintains his principal office or is principally
- 18 employed; second, the political subdivision in which the person
- 19 resides and works, if such a tax is levied by that political
- 20 subdivision; third, the political subdivision in which a person
- 21 is employed and which imposes the tax nearest in miles to the
- 22 person's home. The place of employment shall be determined as of
- 23 the day the taxpayer first becomes subject to the tax during the
- 24 calendar year.
- 25 It is the intent of this provision that no person shall pay
- 26 more than fifty-two dollars (\$52) in any calendar year as an
- 27 emergency and municipal services tax irrespective of the number
- 28 of political subdivisions within which such person may be
- 29 employed within any given calendar year.
- In case of dispute, a tax receipt of the taxing authority for

- 1 that calendar year declaring that the taxpayer has made prior
- 2 payment which constitutes prima facie certification of payment
- 3 to all other political subdivisions.] The following apply:
- 4 (i) If a local services tax is levied at a combined rate
- 5 exceeding ten dollars (\$10) in a calendar year, a person subject
- 6 to the local services tax shall be assessed a pro rata share of
- 7 the tax for each payroll period in which the person is engaging
- 8 in an occupation. The pro rata share of the tax assessed on the
- 9 person for a payroll period shall be determined by dividing the
- 10 combined rate of the local services tax levied for the calendar
- 11 year by the number of payroll periods established by the
- 12 employer for the calendar year. For purposes of determining the
- 13 pro rata share, an employer shall round down the amount of the
- 14 tax collected each payroll period to the nearest one-hundredth
- 15 <u>of a dollar. Collection of the local services tax levied under</u>
- 16 this subclause shall be made on a payroll period basis for each
- 17 payroll period in which the person is engaging in an occupation,
- 18 except as provided in subclause (v).
- 19 <u>(ii) If a school district levied an emergency and municipal</u>
- 20 services tax on the effective date of this subclause, the school
- 21 <u>district may continue to levy the local services tax in the same</u>
- 22 amount the school district collected on the effective date of
- 23 this subclause. However, if a municipality located in whole or
- 24 <u>in part within the school district subsequently levies the local</u>
- 25 services tax, the school district may only collect five dollars
- 26 (\$5) on persons employed within the municipality each calendar
- 27 year. A school district that did not levy an emergency and
- 28 <u>municipal services tax on the effective date of this subclause</u>
- 29 <u>shall be prohibited from levying the local services tax. If a</u>
- 30 school district and a municipality located in whole or in part

- 1 within the school district both levy a local services tax at a
- 2 combined rate exceeding ten dollars (\$10), the school district's
- 3 pro rata share of the aggregate local services taxes levied on
- 4 persons employed within the municipality shall be collected by
- 5 the municipality or its tax officer based on payroll periods as
- 6 provided under subclause (i) and shall be paid to the school
- 7 district on a quarterly basis within sixty days of receipt by
- 8 the municipality or its tax officer.
- 9 <u>(iii) Except as provided in subclause (ii), no person shall</u>
- 10 be subject to the payment of the local services tax by more than
- 11 <u>one political subdivision during each payroll period as</u>
- 12 <u>established by subclause (iv).</u>
- (iv) With respect to a person subject to the local services
- 14 tax at a combined rate exceeding ten dollars (\$10), the situs of
- 15 the tax shall be the place of employment on the first day the
- 16 person becomes subject to the tax during each payroll period.
- 17 With respect to a person subject to the local services tax at a
- 18 combined rate of not more than ten dollars (\$10), the situs of
- 19 the tax shall be the place of employment determined as of the
- 20 day the person first becomes subject to the tax during the
- 21 calendar year. In the event a person is engaged in more than one
- 22 occupation, that is, concurrent employment, or an occupation
- 23 which requires the person working in more than one political
- 24 <u>subdivision during a payroll period, the priority of claim to</u>
- 25 collect the local services tax shall be in the following order:
- 26 first, the political subdivision in which a person maintains the
- 27 person's principal office or is principally employed; second,
- 28 the political subdivision in which the person resides and works,
- 29 <u>if the tax is levied by that political subdivision; and third,</u>
- 30 the political subdivision in which a person is employed and

- 1 which imposes the tax nearest in miles to the person's home.
- 2 (v) In the case of concurrent employment, an employer shall
- 3 refrain from withholding the local services tax, if the employe
- 4 provides a recent pay statement from a principal employer that
- 5 <u>includes the name of the employer, the length of the payroll</u>
- 6 period and the amount of the local services tax withheld and a
- 7 statement from the employe that the pay statement is from the
- 8 <u>employe's principal employer and the employe will notify other</u>
- 9 employers of a change in principal place of employment within
- 10 two weeks of its occurrence. The Department of Community and
- 11 <u>Economic Development shall develop a uniform employe statement</u>
- 12 form.
- 13 (vi) The local services tax shall be no more than fifty-two
- 14 dollars (\$52) on each person for each calendar year,
- 15 <u>irrespective of the number of political subdivisions within</u>
- 16 which a person may be employed.
- 17 (vii) Political subdivisions shall adopt regulations for the
- 18 processing of refund claims for overpaid local services taxes
- 19 for any calendar year. The regulations shall be consistent with
- 20 53 Pa.C.S. §§ 8425 and 8426. Refunds made within seventy-five
- 21 days of a refund request or seventy-five days after the last day
- 22 the employer is required to remit the local services tax for the
- 23 last quarter of the calendar year under section 9 of this act,
- 24 whichever is later, shall not be subject to interest imposed
- 25 <u>under 53 Pa.C.S. § 8426. Political subdivisions shall only</u>
- 26 provide refunds for amounts overpaid in a calendar year that
- 27 exceed one dollar (\$1).
- 28 (viii) The Department of Community and Economic Development
- 29 <u>may SHALL provide suggested forms and technical assistance to</u>
- 30 facilitate the administration of the local services tax for

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- 1 political subdivisions and reduce the burden of implementation,
- 2 <u>accounting and compliance for employers and taxpayers.</u>
- 3 (ix) For purposes of this clause, "combined rate" shall mean
- 4 the aggregate annual rate of the local services tax levied by a
- 5 school district and a municipality located in whole or in part
- 6 within the school district.
- 7 (10) To levy, assess or collect a tax on admissions to
- 8 motion picture theatres: Provided, That this limitation (10)
- 9 shall not apply to cities of the second class.
- 10 (11) To levy, assess or collect a tax on the construction of
- 11 or improvement to residential dwellings or upon the application
- 12 for or issuance of permits for the construction of or
- 13 improvements to residential dwellings.
- 14 (12) To levy, assess and collect a mercantile or business
- 15 privilege tax on gross receipts or part thereof which are: (i)
- 16 discounts allowed to purchasers as cash discounts for prompt
- 17 payment of their bills; (ii) charges advanced by a seller for
- 18 freight, delivery or other transportation for the purchaser in
- 19 accordance with the terms of a contract of sale; (iii) received
- 20 upon the sale of an article of personal property which was
- 21 acquired by the seller as a trade-in to the extent that the
- 22 gross receipts in the sale of the article taken in trade does
- 23 not exceed the amount of trade-in allowance made in acquiring
- 24 such article; (iv) refunds, credits or allowances given to a
- 25 purchaser on account of defects in goods sold or merchandise
- 26 returned; (v) Pennsylvania sales tax; (vi) based on the value of
- 27 exchanges or transfers between one seller and another seller who
- 28 transfers property with the understanding that property of an
- 29 identical description will be returned at a subsequent date;
- 30 however, when sellers engaged in similar lines of business

- 1 exchange property and one of them makes payment to the other in
- 2 addition to the property exchanged, the additional payment
- 3 received may be included in the gross receipts of the seller
- 4 receiving such additional cash payments; (vii) of sellers from
- 5 sales to other sellers in the same line where the seller
- 6 transfers the title or possession at the same price for which
- 7 the seller acquired the merchandise; or (viii) transfers between
- 8 one department, branch or division of a corporation or other
- 9 business entity of goods, wares and merchandise to another
- 10 department, branch or division of the same corporation or
- 11 business entity and which are recorded on the books to reflect
- 12 such interdepartmental transactions.
- 13 (13) To levy, assess or collect an amusement or admissions
- 14 tax on membership, membership dues, fees or assessments,
- 15 donations, contributions or monetary charges of any character
- 16 whatsoever paid by the general public, or a limited or selected
- 17 number thereof, for such persons to enter into any place,
- 18 indoors or outdoors, to engage in any activities, the
- 19 predominant purpose or nature of which is exercise, fitness,
- 20 health maintenance, improvement or rehabilitation, health or
- 21 nutrition education, or weight control.
- 22 (14) Except by cities of the second class, to levy, assess
- 23 or collect a tax on payroll amounts generated as a result of
- 24 business activity.
- 25 (15) Except by cities of the second class in which a sports
- 26 stadium or arena that has received public funds in connection
- 27 with its construction or maintenance is located, to levy, assess
- 28 and collect a publicly funded facility usage fee upon those
- 29 nonresident individuals who use such facility to engage in an
- 30 athletic event or otherwise render a performance for which they

- 1 receive remuneration.
- 2 (16) To levy, assess or collect an amusement or admissions
- 3 tax on the charge imposed upon a patron for the sale of
- 4 admission to or for the privilege of admission to a bowling
- 5 alley or bowling lane to engage in one or more games of bowling.
- 6 Section 2. Section 7 of the act, amended August 11, 1967
- 7 (P.L.228, No.83) and October 9, 1967 (P.L.361, No.160), is
- 8 amended to read:
- 9 Section 7. Filing of Certified Copies of Ordinances and
- 10 Resolutions. -- When an ordinance or a resolution is first passed
- 11 or adopted by a political subdivision imposing a tax or license
- 12 fee under the authority of this act, an exact printed or
- 13 typewritten copy thereof, certified to by the secretary of the
- 14 taxing body, shall be filed with the [Department of Community
- 15 Affairs] <u>Department of Community and Economic Development</u> within
- 16 fifteen days after the same becomes effective.
- 17 Any secretary or person acting as the clerk or secretary of
- 18 the taxing body of any political subdivision during the meeting
- 19 at which an ordinance or resolution imposing a tax or license
- 20 fee is passed or adopted as herein provided who shall fail to
- 21 file the certified copy or statement relative thereto with the
- 22 [Department of Community Affairs] Department of Community and
- 23 <u>Economic Development</u> as herein required, shall, upon summary
- 24 conviction thereof in the county in which the political
- 25 subdivision is located, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less
- 26 than five dollars (\$5) nor more than twenty-five dollars (\$25),
- 27 and the costs of prosecution.
- Section 3. Section 8 of the act, amended December 1, 2004
- 29 (P.L.1729, No.222), is amended to read:
- 30 Section 8. Limitations on Rates of Specific Taxes.--No taxes

- 1 levied under the provisions of this act shall be levied by any
- 2 political subdivision on the following subjects exceeding the
- 3 rates specified in this section:
- 4 (1) Per capita, poll or other similar head taxes, ten
- 5 dollars (\$10).
- 6 (2) On each dollar of the whole volume of business
- 7 transacted by wholesale dealers in goods, wares and merchandise,
- 8 one mill, by retail dealers in goods, wares and merchandise and
- 9 by proprietors of restaurants or other places where food, drink
- 10 and refreshments are served, one and one-half mills; except in
- 11 cities of the second class, where rates shall not exceed one
- 12 mill on wholesale dealers and two mills on retail dealers and
- 13 proprietors. No such tax shall be levied on the dollar volume of
- 14 business transacted by wholesale and retail dealers derived from
- 15 the resale of goods, wares and merchandise, taken by any dealer
- 16 as a trade-in or as part payment for other goods, wares and
- 17 merchandise, except to the extent that the resale price exceeds
- 18 the trade-in allowance.
- 19 (3) On wages, salaries, commissions and other earned income
- 20 of individuals, one percent.
- 21 (4) On retail sales involving the transfer of title or
- 22 possession of tangible personal property, two percent.
- 23 (5) On the transfer of real property, one percent.
- 24 (6) On admissions to places of amusement, athletic events
- 25 and the like, and on motion picture theatres in cities of the
- 26 second class, ten percent.
- 27 (7) Flat rate occupation taxes not using a millage or
- 28 percentage as a basis, ten dollars (\$10).
- 29 (8) [Emergency and municipal] <u>Local</u> services taxes, fifty-
- 30 two dollars (\$52).

- 1 (9) On admissions to ski facilities, ten percent. The tax
- 2 base upon which the tax shall be levied shall not exceed forty
- 3 percent of the cost of the lift ticket. The lift ticket shall
- 4 include all costs of admissions to the ski facility.
- 5 (10) On admissions to golf courses, ten percent. The tax
- 6 base upon which the tax shall be levied shall not exceed forty
- 7 percent of the greens fee. The greens fee shall include all
- 8 costs of admissions to the golf course.
- 9 (12) On payrolls, fifty-five hundredths percent.
- 10 Except as otherwise provided in this act, at any time two
- 11 political subdivisions shall impose any one of the above taxes
- 12 on the same person, subject, business, transaction or privilege,
- 13 located within both such political subdivisions, during the same
- 14 year or part of the same year, under the authority of this act
- 15 then the tax levied by a political subdivision under the
- 16 authority of this act shall, during the time such duplication of
- 17 the tax exists, except as hereinafter otherwise provided, be
- 18 one-half of the rate, as above limited, and such one-half rate
- 19 shall become effective by virtue of the requirements of this act
- 20 from the day such duplication becomes effective without any
- 21 action on the part of the political subdivision imposing the tax
- 22 under the authority of this act. When any one of the above taxes
- 23 has been levied under the provisions of this act by one
- 24 political subdivision and a subsequent levy is made either for
- 25 the first time or is revived after a lapse of time by another
- 26 political subdivision on the same person, subject, business,
- 27 transaction or privilege at a rate that would make the combined
- 28 levies exceed the limit allowed by this subdivision, the tax of
- 29 the second political subdivision shall not become effective
- 30 until the end of the fiscal year for which the prior tax was

- 1 levied, unless:
- 2 (1) Notice indicating its intention to make such levy is
- 3 given to the first taxing body by the second taxing body as
- 4 follows: (i) when the notice is given to a school district it
- 5 shall be given at least forty-five days prior to the last day
- 6 fixed by law for the levy of its school taxes; (ii) when given
- 7 to any other political subdivision it shall be prior to the
- 8 first day of January immediately preceding, or if a last day for
- 9 the adoption of the budget is fixed by law, at least forty-five
- 10 days prior to such last day; or
- 11 (2) Unless the first taxing body shall indicate by
- 12 appropriate resolution its desire to waive notice requirements
- 13 in which case the levy of the second taxing body shall become
- 14 effective on such date as may be agreed upon by the two taxing
- 15 bodies.
- 16 It is the intent and purpose of this provision to limit rates
- 17 of taxes referred to in this section so that the entire burden
- 18 of one tax on a person, subject, business, transaction or
- 19 privilege shall not exceed the limitations prescribed in this
- 20 section: Provided, however, That any two political subdivisions
- 21 which impose any one of the above taxes, on the same person,
- 22 subject, business, transaction or privilege during the same year
- 23 or part of the same year may agree among themselves that,
- 24 instead of limiting their respective rates to one-half of the
- 25 maximum rate herein provided, they will impose respectively
- 26 different rates, the total of which shall not exceed the maximum
- 27 rate as above permitted.
- 28 Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any city of
- 29 the second class A may enact a tax upon wages, salaries,
- 30 commissions and other earned income of individuals resident

- 1 therein, not exceeding one percent, even though a school
- 2 district levies a similar tax on the same person provided that
- 3 the aggregate of both taxes does not exceed two percent. [In the
- 4 case of duplication of emergency and municipal services taxes by
- 5 both a school district, other than a school district of the
- 6 first class A, and another taxing body, the school district's
- 7 share of the tax shall not exceed the amount of a tax on the
- 8 privilege of engaging in an occupation collected by the school
- 9 district as of the effective date of this paragraph. In the case
- 10 where a school district did not levy a tax on the privilege of
- 11 engaging in an occupation on the effective date of this
- 12 paragraph, the school district may impose a future levy not to
- 13 exceed five dollars (\$5). A school district of the first class A
- 14 shall not levy, assess or collect an emergency and municipal
- 15 services tax.]
- 16 Section 4. Section 9 of the act, amended December 12, 1968
- 17 (P.L.1203, No.377), is amended to read:
- 18 Section 9. Register for Earned Income and [Occupational
- 19 Privilege] Local Services Taxes. -- It shall be the duty of the
- 20 [Department of Community Affairs] Department of Community and
- 21 Economic Development to have available an official continuing
- 22 register supplemented annually of all earned income and
- 23 [occupational privilege] <u>local services</u> taxes levied under
- 24 authority of this act. The register and its supplements,
- 25 hereinafter referred to as the register, shall list such
- 26 jurisdictions levying earned income [and/or occupational
- 27 privilege] and local services taxes, the rate of the tax as
- 28 stated in the tax levying ordinance or resolution, and the
- 29 effective rate on resident and nonresident taxpayers, if
- 30 different from the stated rate because of a coterminous levy,

- 1 the name and address of the officer responsible for
- 2 administering the collection of the tax and from whom
- 3 information, forms for reporting and copies of rules and
- 4 regulations are available. With each jurisdiction listed, all
- 5 jurisdictions making coterminous levies shall also be noted and
- 6 their tax rates shown.
- 7 Information for the register shall be furnished by the
- 8 secretary of each taxing body to the [Department of Community
- 9 Affairs] <u>Department of Community and Economic Development</u> in
- 10 such manner and on such forms as the [Department of Community
- 11 Affairs] Department of Community and Economic Development may
- 12 prescribe. The information must be received by the [Department
- 13 of Community Affairs] Department of Community and Economic
- 14 <u>Development</u> by certified mail not later than May 31 of each year
- 15 to show new tax enactments, repeals and changes. Failure to
- 16 comply with this date for filing may result in the omission of
- 17 the levy from the register for that year. Failure of the
- 18 [Department of Community Affairs] Department of Community and
- 19 Economic Development to receive information of taxes continued
- 20 without change may be construed by the department to mean that
- 21 the information contained in the previous register remains in
- 22 force.
- 23 The [Department of Community Affairs] <u>Department of Community</u>
- 24 <u>and Economic Development</u> shall have the register with such
- 25 annual supplements as may be required by new tax enactments,
- 26 repeals or changes available upon request not later than July 1
- 27 of each year. The effective period for each register shall be
- 28 from July 1 of the year in which it is issued to June 30 of the
- 29 following year.
- 30 Employers shall not be required by any local ordinance to

- 1 withhold from the wages, salaries, commissions or other
- 2 compensation of their employes any tax imposed under the
- 3 provisions of this act, which is not listed in the register, or
- 4 make reports of wages, salaries, commissions or other
- 5 compensation in connection with taxes not so listed: Provided,
- 6 That if the register is not available by July 1, the register of
- 7 the previous year shall continue temporarily in effect for an
- 8 additional period not to exceed one year. The provisions of this
- 9 section shall not affect the liability of any taxpayer for taxes
- 10 lawfully imposed under this act.
- Ordinances or resolutions imposing earned income or
- 12 [occupational privilege] <u>local services</u> taxes under authority of
- 13 this act may contain provisions requiring employers doing
- 14 business within the jurisdiction of the political subdivision
- 15 imposing the tax to withhold the tax from the compensation of
- 16 those of their employes who are subject to the tax: Provided,
- 17 That no employer shall be held liable for failure to withhold
- 18 earned income taxes or for the payment of such withheld tax
- 19 money to a political subdivision other than the political
- 20 subdivision entitled to receive such money if such failure to
- 21 withhold or such incorrect transmittal of withheld taxes arises
- 22 from incorrect information as to the employe's place of
- 23 residence submitted by the employe: And provided further, That
- 24 [employers shall not be required by any local ordinance to
- 25 withhold from compensation for any one of their employes for the
- 26 occupational privilege tax more than one time in any fiscal
- 27 period: no employer shall be held liable for failure to
- 28 withhold the local services tax or for the payment of the
- 29 <u>withheld tax money to a political subdivision if the failure to</u>
- 30 withhold taxes arises from incorrect information submitted by

- 1 the employe as to the employe's place or places of employment,
- 2 the employe's principal office or where the employe is
- 3 principally employed: And provided further, That an employer
- 4 shall not be liable for payment of the local services tax in an
- 5 amount exceeding the amount withheld by the employer if the
- 6 employer complies with the provisions of section 2(9) of this
- 7 act and remits the amount so withheld in accordance with this
- 8 <u>section:</u> And provided further, That the [occupational privilege]
- 9 <u>local services</u> tax shall be applicable to employment in the
- 10 period beginning January 1, of the current year and ending
- 11 December 31 of the current year, except that taxes imposed for
- 12 the first time shall become effective from [the date] January 1
- 13 of the year specified in the ordinance or resolution, and the
- 14 tax shall continue in force on a calendar year basis[.]: And
- 15 provided further, That employers shall be required to remit the

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- 16 <u>local services taxes within thirty days after the end of each</u>
- 17 <u>quarter of a calendar year.</u>
- 18 Section 5. Section 19 of the act, amended October 4, 1978
- 19 (P.L.930, No.177), is amended to read:
- 20 Section 19. Collection of Delinquent Per Capita, Occupation,
- 21 Occupational Privilege, Emergency and Municipal Services, Local
- 22 Services and Earned Income Taxes from Employers, etc.--The tax
- 23 collector shall demand, receive and collect from all
- 24 corporations, political subdivisions, associations, companies,
- 25 firms or individuals, employing persons owing delinquent per
- 26 capita, or occupation, occupational privilege, emergency and
- 27 municipal services, local services and earned income taxes, or
- 28 whose spouse owes delinquent per capita, occupation,
- 29 occupational privilege, emergency and municipal services, local
- 30 <u>services</u> and earned income taxes, or having in possession unpaid

- 1 commissions or earnings belonging to any person or persons owing
- 2 delinquent per capita, occupation, occupational privilege,
- 3 <u>emergency and municipal services</u>, <u>local services</u> and earned
- 4 income taxes, or whose spouse owes delinquent per capita,
- 5 occupation, occupational privilege, emergency and municipal
- 6 <u>services</u>, <u>local services</u> and earned income taxes, upon the
- 7 presentation of a written notice and demand certifying that the
- 8 information contained therein is true and correct and containing
- 9 the name of the taxable or the spouse thereof and the amount of
- 10 tax due. Upon the presentation of such written notice and
- 11 demand, it shall be the duty of any such corporation, political
- 12 subdivision, association, company, firm or individual to deduct
- 13 from the wages, commissions or earnings of such individual
- 14 employes, then owing or that shall within sixty days thereafter
- 15 become due, or from any unpaid commissions or earnings of any
- 16 such taxable in its or his possession, or that shall within
- 17 sixty days thereafter come into its or his possession, a sum
- 18 sufficient to pay the respective amount of the delinquent per
- 19 capita, occupation, occupational privilege, emergency and
- 20 municipal services, local services and earned income taxes and
- 21 costs, shown upon the written notice or demand, and to pay the
- 22 same to the tax collector of the taxing district in which such
- 23 delinquent tax was levied within sixty days after such notice
- 24 shall have been given. No more than ten percent of the wages,
- 25 commissions or earnings of the delinquent taxpayer or spouse
- 26 thereof may be deducted at any one time for delinquent per
- 27 capita, occupation, occupational privilege, emergency and
- 28 <u>municipal services</u>, <u>local services</u> and earned income taxes and
- 29 costs. Such corporation, political subdivision, association,
- 30 firm or individual shall be entitled to deduct from the moneys

- 1 collected from each employe the costs incurred from the extra
- 2 bookkeeping necessary to record such transactions, not exceeding
- 3 two percent of the amount of money so collected and paid over to
- 4 the tax collector. Upon the failure of any such corporation,
- 5 political subdivision, association, company, firm or individual
- 6 to deduct the amount of such taxes or to pay the same over to
- 7 the tax collector, less the cost of bookkeeping involved in such
- 8 transaction, as herein provided, within the time hereby
- 9 required, such corporation, political subdivision, association,
- 10 company, firm or individual shall forfeit and pay the amount of
- 11 such tax for each such taxable whose taxes are not withheld and
- 12 paid over, or that are withheld and not paid over together with
- 13 a penalty of ten percent added thereto, to be recovered by an
- 14 action of assumpsit in a suit to be instituted by the tax
- 15 collector, or by the proper authorities of the taxing district,
- 16 as debts of like amount are now by law recoverable, except that
- 17 such person shall not have the benefit of any stay of execution
- 18 or exemption law. The tax collector shall not proceed against a
- 19 spouse or his employer until he has pursued collection remedies
- 20 against the delinquent taxpayer and his employer under this
- 21 section.
- 22 Section 6. Section 20 of the act is amended to read:
- 23 Section 20. Collection of Delinquent Per Capita, Occupation,
- 24 Occupational Privilege, Emergency and Municipal Services, Local
- 25 <u>Services</u> and Earned Income Taxes from the Commonwealth.--Upon
- 26 presentation of a written notice and demand under oath or
- 27 affirmation, to the State Treasurer or any other fiscal officer
- 28 of the State, or its boards, authorities, agencies or
- 29 commissions, it shall be the duty of the treasurer or officer to
- 30 deduct from the wages then owing, or that shall within sixty

- 1 days thereafter become due to any employe, a sum sufficient to
- 2 pay the respective amount of the delinquent per capita,
- 3 occupation, occupational privilege, emergency and municipal
- 4 services, local services and earned income taxes and costs shown
- 5 on the written notice. The same shall be paid to the tax
- 6 collector of the taxing district in which said delinquent tax
- 7 was levied within sixty days after such notice shall have been
- 8 given.
- 9 Section 7. Section 22.1 of the act, added November 30, 2004
- 10 (P.L.1520, No.192), is amended to read:
- 11 Section 22.1. Costs of Collection of Delinquent Per Capita,
- 12 Occupation, Occupational Privilege, Emergency and Municipal
- 13 Services, Local Services and Earned Income Taxes. -- (a) A person,
- 14 public employe or private agency designated by a governing body
- 15 of a political subdivision to collect and administer a per
- 16 capita, occupation, occupational privilege, emergency and
- 17 <u>municipal services</u>, <u>local services</u> or earned income tax may
- 18 impose and collect the reasonable costs incurred to provide
- 19 notices of delinquency or to implement similar procedures
- 20 utilized to collect delinquent taxes from a taxpayer as approved
- 21 by the governing body of the political subdivision. Reasonable
- 22 costs collected may be retained by the person, public employe or
- 23 private agency designated to collect the tax as agreed to by the
- 24 governing body of the political subdivision. An itemized
- 25 accounting of all costs collected shall be remitted to the
- 26 political subdivision on an annual basis.
- 27 (b) Costs related to the collection of unpaid per capita,
- 28 occupation [or], occupational privilege, emergency and municipal
- 29 <u>services or local services</u> taxes may only be assessed, levied
- 30 and collected for five years from the last day of the calendar

- 1 year in which the tax was due.
- 2 (c) A delinquent taxpayer may not bring an action for
- 3 reimbursement, refund or elimination of reasonable costs of
- 4 collection assessed or imposed prior to the effective date of
- 5 this section. Additional costs may not be assessed on delinquent
- 6 taxes collected prior to the effective date of this section.
- 7 Section 8. Sections 22.4 and 22.5 of the act, added December
- 8 1, 2004 (P.L.1729, No.222), are repealed:
- 9 [Section 22.4. Emergency and Municipal Services Taxes.--Any
- 10 reference in any act or law to an occupational privilege tax
- 11 shall mean the emergency and municipal services taxes as
- 12 provided for in this act.
- 13 Section 22.5. Restricted Use. -- (a) Any municipality
- 14 deriving funds from the emergency and municipal services tax may
- 15 only use the funds for:
- 16 (1) police, fire and/or emergency services;
- 17 (2) road construction and/or maintenance; or
- 18 (3) reduction of property taxes.
- 19 (b) For the purpose of the emergency and municipal services
- 20 tax, the term municipality does not include a school district.]
- 21 Section 9. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
- 22 <u>Section 22.6. Restricted Use.--(a) Any municipality</u>
- 23 deriving funds from the local services tax may only use the
- 24 <u>funds for:</u>
- 25 (1) Emergency services, which shall include emergency
- 26 <u>medical services</u>, <u>police services and/or fire services</u>.
- 27 (2) Road construction and/or maintenance.
- 28 (3) Reduction of property taxes.
- 29 (4) Property tax relief through implementation of a
- 30 homestead and farmstead exclusion in accordance with 53 Pa.C.S.

- 1 Ch. 85 Subch. F (relating to homestead property exclusion).
- 2 (A.1) A MUNICIPALITY SHALL USE NO LESS THAN TWENTY-FIVE

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- 3 PERCENT OF THE FUNDS DERIVED FROM THE LOCAL SERVICES TAX FOR
- 4 EMERGENCY SERVICES.
- 5 (b) In the event that a municipality decides to implement a
- 6 homestead and farmstead exclusion for purposes of providing
- 7 property tax relief in accordance with subsection (a)(4), the
- 8 <u>following shall apply:</u>
- 9 (1) The decision to provide a homestead and farmstead
- 10 exclusion shall be made, by ordinance, prior to December 1, with
- 11 the homestead and farmstead exclusion to take effect for the
- 12 <u>fiscal year beginning the first day of January following</u>
- 13 adoption of the ordinance. Upon adopting an ordinance in
- 14 accordance with this paragraph, a municipality shall, by first
- 15 class mail, notify the assessor, as defined in 53 Pa.C.S. § 8582
- 16 (relating to definitions), of its decision to provide a
- 17 <u>homestead and farmstead exclusion.</u>
- 18 (2) The assessor shall provide a municipality that will be
- 19 imposing a homestead and farmstead exclusion in accordance with
- 20 <u>subsection (a)(4) with a certified report, as provided in 53</u>
- 21 Pa.C.S. § 8584(i) (relating to administration and procedure),
- 22 listing information regarding homestead and farmstead properties
- 23 <u>in the municipality as determined pursuant to applications filed</u>
- 24 with the assessor in connection with this or any other law under
- 25 which a homestead or farmstead exclusion has been adopted. In
- 26 the year in which an ordinance is adopted in accordance with
- 27 paragraph (1), the assessor shall provide the certified report
- 28 after being notified by the municipality of its decision to
- 29 provide a homestead and farmstead exclusion. In each succeeding
- 30 year, the assessor shall provide the certified report by

- 1 December 1 or at the same time the tax duplicate is certified to
- 2 the municipality, whichever occurs first. Any duty placed on an
- 3 <u>assessor in accordance with this paragraph shall be in addition</u>
- 4 to those established in 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 85 Subch. F and the act
- 5 of June 27, 2006 (Sp.Sess. P.L., No.1), known as the "Taxpayer
- 6 Relief Act."
- 7 (3) Only homestead or farmstead properties identified in the
- 8 certified report of the assessor obtained in any year shall be
- 9 <u>eligible to receive the exclusion for the next fiscal year.</u>
- 10 (4) In the year in which a municipality adopts the ordinance
- 11 evidencing its decision to implement a homestead and farmstead
- 12 <u>exclusion</u>, the municipality shall notify by first class mail the
- 13 owner of each parcel of residential property within the
- 14 municipality which is not approved as a homestead or farmstead
- 15 property or for which the approval is due to expire of the
- 16 following:
- 17 (i) That the homestead and farmstead exclusion program is to
- 18 be implemented to provide property tax relief as authorized by
- 19 <u>subsection (a)(4), beginning in the next fiscal year.</u>
- 20 (ii) That only properties currently identified in the
- 21 <u>certified report of the assessor as having been approved in</u>
- 22 whole or in part as homestead or farmstead properties shall be
- 23 entitled to an exclusion in the next fiscal year.
- 24 (iii) That owners of properties that have not been approved
- 25 by the assessor as homestead or farmstead properties may file an
- 26 application in accordance with 53 Pa.C.S. § 8584(a) by the
- 27 annual application deadline of March 1 in order to qualify for
- 28 the program in the year following the next fiscal year.
- 29 (5) The one-time notice required by paragraph (4) may be
- 30 combined and made together with the annual notice required by

- 1 paragraph (7) or with an annual notice by a coterminous
- 2 political subdivision that has implemented a homestead and
- 3 <u>farmstead exclusion</u>.
- 4 (6) In the year in which the initial decision to provide a
- 5 <u>homestead and farmstead exclusion is made and in each succeeding</u>
- 6 year, a municipality shall, by resolution, fix the dollar amount
- 7 that is to be excluded from the assessed value of each homestead
- 8 and farmstead property for the next fiscal year, consistent with
- 9 53 Pa.C.S. §§ 8583 (relating to exclusion for homestead
- 10 property) and 8586 (relating to limitations). This determination
- 11 of the amount of the homestead and farmstead exclusion shall be
- 12 made, after receipt of the tax duplicate and the certified
- 13 report from the assessor, at the time the governing body of a
- 14 municipality determines the municipal budget and estimates
- 15 revenues to be derived from the local services tax for the next
- 16 fiscal year.
- 17 (7) Each year after the year in which the municipality
- 18 implements a homestead and farmstead exclusion and no later than
- 19 sixty days prior to the application deadline, the municipality
- 20 <u>shall give notice of the existence of the municipality's</u>
- 21 homestead and farmstead exclusion program, the need to file an
- 22 application in accordance with 53 Pa.C.S. § 8584(a) in order to
- 23 qualify for the program and the application deadline, which, in
- 24 accordance with 53 Pa.C.S. § 8584(b), shall be March 1. This
- 25 annual notice, which shall be given by first class mail, need
- 26 only be sent to the owner of each parcel of residential property
- 27 in the municipality which is not approved as homestead or
- 28 farmstead property or for which the approval is due to expire.
- 29 <u>(c) For purposes of this section, the term "municipality"</u>
- 30 does not include a school district.

- 1 Section 10. Any ordinance or resolution providing for the
- 2 levying, assessment or collection of a tax on individuals for
- 3 the privilege of engaging in an occupation which has been
- 4 enacted by a political subdivision prior to December 1, 2004,
- 5 shall continue in full force and effect, without reenactment, as
- 6 if such tax had been levied, assessed or collected as a local
- 7 services tax under section 2(9) of the act. All references in
- 8 any ordinance or resolution to a tax on the privilege of
- 9 engaging in an occupation shall be deemed to be a reference to a
- 10 local services tax for the purposes of the act.
- 11 Section 11. All emergency and municipal services taxes
- 12 levied for the calendar year beginning on January 1, 2007, shall
- 13 remain in effect for the calendar year beginning on January 1,
- 14 2007, and ending December 31, 2007, and are not otherwise
- 15 altered.
- 16 Section 12. The following shall apply:
- 17 (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendment
- or addition of the following provisions shall apply to taxes
- 19 levied for calendar year 2008 and each year thereafter:
- 20 (i) The amendment of section 2 of the act.
- 21 (ii) The amendment of section 8 of the act.
- 22 (iii) The amendment of section 9 of the act, except
- for any editorial amendment changing the reference from
- 24 the Department of Community Affairs to the Department of
- 25 Community and Economic Development.
- 26 (iv) The amendment of section 19 of the act.
- 27 (v) The amendment of section 20 of the act.
- (vi) The amendment of section 22.1 of the act.
- 29 (vii) The amendment of section 22.4 of the act.
- 30 (viii) The amendment of section 22.5 of the act.

1 (ix) The addition of section 22.6 of the act.

2 The amendment of the introductory paragraph of 3 section 2 of the act shall not apply, until January 1, 2009, 4 to a municipality which reduced its real estate property tax 5 by at least 25% upon adoption of an ordinance pursuant to the act of December 1, 2004 (P.L.1729, No.222), entitled "An act 6 7 amending the act of December 31, 1965 (P.L.1257, No.511), 8 entitled 'An act empowering cities of the second class, 9 cities of the second class A, cities of the third class, 10 boroughs, towns, townships of the first class, townships of 11 the second class, school districts of the second class, 12 school districts of the third class and school districts of 13 the fourth class including independent school districts, to 14 levy, assess, collect or to provide for the levying, assessment and collection of certain taxes subject to maximum 15 16 limitations for general revenue purposes; authorizing the 17 establishment of bureaus and the appointment and compensation 18 of officers, agencies and employes to assess and collect such 19 taxes; providing for joint collection of certain taxes, 20 prescribing certain definitions and other provisions for 21 taxes levied and assessed upon earned income, providing for 22 annual audits and for collection of delinquent taxes, and 23 permitting and requiring penalties to be imposed and 24 enforced, including penalties for disclosure of confidential 25 information, providing an appeal from the ordinance or 26 resolution levying such taxes to the court of quarter 27 sessions and to the Supreme Court and Superior Court,' 28 further providing for delegation of taxing powers and 29 restrictions thereon; providing for nonresident sports facility usage fee, for parking tax rates and for payroll 30

- 1 taxes; further providing for limitations on rates of specific
- 2 taxes and for the appointment of a single collector of taxes;
- 3 further providing for the applicability of petitions under
- 4 the act of July 10, 1987 (P.L.246, No.47), known as the
- 5 Municipalities Financial Recovery Act; and making a repeal."
- 6 Section 13. Repeals are as follows:
- 7 (1) The General Assembly declares that the repeal under
- 8 paragraph (2) is necessary to effectuate the amendment of
- 9 section 2(9) of the act.
- 10 (2) Section 6 of the act of December 1, 2004 (P.L.1729,
- No.222), entitled "An act amending the act of December 31,
- 12 1965 (P.L.1257, No.511), entitled 'An act empowering cities
- of the second class, cities of the second class A, cities of
- the third class, boroughs, towns, townships of the first
- 15 class, townships of the second class, school districts of the
- second class, school districts of the third class and school
- 17 districts of the fourth class including independent school
- districts, to levy, assess, collect or to provide for the
- 19 levying, assessment and collection of certain taxes subject
- 20 to maximum limitations for general revenue purposes;
- 21 authorizing the establishment of bureaus and the appointment
- and compensation of officers, agencies and employes to assess
- and collect such taxes; providing for joint collection of
- certain taxes, prescribing certain definitions and other
- provisions for taxes levied and assessed upon earned income,
- 26 providing for annual audits and for collection of delinquent
- 27 taxes, and permitting and requiring penalties to be imposed
- and enforced, including penalties for disclosure of
- 29 confidential information, providing an appeal from the
- 30 ordinance or resolution levying such taxes to the court of

- 1 quarter sessions and to the Supreme Court and Superior
- 2 Court,' further providing for delegation of taxing powers and
- 3 restrictions thereon; providing for nonresident sports
- 4 facility usage fee, for parking tax rates and for payroll
- 5 taxes; further providing for limitations on rates of specific
- taxes and for the appointment of a single collector of taxes;
- 7 further providing for the applicability of petitions under
- 8 the act of July 10, 1987 (P.L.246, No.47), known as the
- 9 Municipalities Financial Recovery Act; and making a repeal,"
- is repealed.
- 11 Section 14. This act shall take effect immediately.