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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**  
**No. 1613** Session of  
1975

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INTRODUCED BY PARKER, WRIGHT, BRANDT, ZORD, HASKELL, COWELL,  
W. D. HUTCHINSON, D. S. HAYES, HILL, TRELLO, NOYE, FISHER,  
VROON, MILANOVICH AND KNEPPER, JULY 15, 1975

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL-STATE-RELATIONS, JULY 16, 1975

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AN ACT

1 Creating a commission on Pennsylvania's future; setting forth  
2 its duties and making an appropriation.

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

5 Section 1. Commission on Pennsylvania's Future.--There is  
6 hereby created a commission on Pennsylvania's future hereinafter  
7 referred to as the "commission."

8 Section 2. Membership.--(a) The commission shall consist of  
9 50 members who shall be appointed by the Governor. Of the  
10 members appointed there shall be at least one from each  
11 Congressional district in the Commonwealth.

12 (b) The members of the commission shall serve for a term  
13 ending December 30, 1978.

14 (c) The chairman shall be appointed by the Governor and  
15 serve at his pleasure. The Governor shall fill vacancies by  
16 appointing members similarly qualified to the members being  
17 replaced.

1 (d) The Secretary of Community Affairs, the Budget  
2 Secretary, the Secretary of Administration, the Secretary of  
3 Commerce, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Director of the  
4 Office of State Planning and Development shall serve as ex  
5 officio members of the commission.

6 Section 3. Compensation.--The members of the commission,  
7 except for ex officio members, shall be paid \$50 for each day  
8 the commission shall meet. In addition, each member shall be  
9 allowed actual and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge  
10 of his duty, in the manner and amount of State employees.

11 Section 4. Duties.--The duties of the commission shall be:  
12 to prepare, for consideration by the Governor and the General  
13 Assembly, a proposed State growth and development strategy; to  
14 prepare reports assembling relevant information regarding the  
15 State's future; to examine the long range plans of State  
16 departments and agencies and to assess their possible impact on  
17 State growth and development; and to report to the Governor and  
18 the General Assembly at regular intervals on the development  
19 implications of major State decisions. A report of the  
20 commission shall be submitted to the Governor not later than  
21 November 30 of each year. This requirement in no way affects the  
22 freedom of the commission to submit recommendations and  
23 legislative proposals whenever it considers it appropriate to do  
24 so. Recommendations and proposals shall be to the fullest extent  
25 possible, in the form of alternatives from which the Governor  
26 and the General Assembly can select a preferred course of  
27 action, policy, plan, strategy or legislative program. In the  
28 performance of these duties, the commission shall, whenever  
29 possible, consult with citizen groups, farm, business and labor  
30 organizations, and other agencies and organizations, including

1 agencies of the Federal Government concerned with Pennsylvania's  
2 future.

3       Section 5. Access to Information; State Agencies.--The  
4 commission shall be provided information, reports, or other  
5 assistance from any agency, department, legislative committee or  
6 other instrumentality of the State, with the consent of the head  
7 thereof. All State agencies and other official State  
8 organizations and all persons shall provide to the commission  
9 all relevant information and reasonable assistance on any matter  
10 of research or data within their knowledge or control. The joint  
11 legislative committee shall have equal access to all the  
12 resources mentioned above. A common data base shall be employed  
13 by the commission and the joint committee.

14       Section 6. Administration and Staff Support.--The office of  
15 State Planning and Development together with the Department of  
16 Community Affairs shall provide all necessary and administrative  
17 and professional support to the commission. All staff employed  
18 by the commission shall be considered either employees of the  
19 office of State Planning and Development or the Department of  
20 Community Affairs and shall be appointed by the director or  
21 secretary after consultation with the chairman of the  
22 commission.

23       Section 7. Joint Legislative Review.--A joint legislative  
24 committee shall be established by the commission to review the  
25 commission reports, evaluate the alternatives, identify  
26 legislative priorities and develop a planning capability  
27 consistent with the task of this commission. This committee  
28 shall consist of three Senators appointed by the President pro  
29 tempore; three by the minority leader; three Representatives  
30 appointed by the Speaker of the House; and three by the House

1 Minority Leader. All shall serve at the will and pleasure of the  
2 appointing authority as long as they are members of the General  
3 Assembly and vacancies shall be filled within 60 days. All shall  
4 be ex officio members of the commission.

5 Section 8. Expiration.--This act shall be effective until  
6 December 30, 1978.

7 Section 9. Appropriation.--The sum of \$100,000 or as much  
8 thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated to the office  
9 of State Planning and Development and a like amount to the  
10 Department of Community Affairs to carry out the provisions of  
11 this act.

12 Section 10. Effective Date.--This act shall take effect  
13 immediately.