

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1527 Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY CALTAGIRONE, COLE, GRAY, SCANLON, GIAMMARCO,
CIANCIULLI, D. R. WRIGHT, MILANOVICH, SHUMAN, ZEARFOSS,
SPITZ, LYNCH, STAIRS, ARMSTRONG, WENGER, STUBAN, GOODMAN,
BORSKI, JONES, SWEET, McCALL, TENAGLIO, ZITTERMAN, WANSACZ,
McLANE, RUGGIERO, LEVI, GATSKI, MOEHLMANN, SALVATORE, BURD,
FREIND, GALLAN, BERLIN, DAVIES, GLEESON, BROWN, DeWEESE,
HARPER, B. F. O'BRIEN, MELUSKEY, FISHER, POTT, GRIECO,
CIMINI, McINTYRE, OLIVER, JOHNSON, MEBUS AND MILLIRON,
JULY 25, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON MINES AND ENERGY MANAGEMENT,
JULY 25, 1977

AN ACT

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

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

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

Section 1927-A. Drilling in Lake Erie Permitted.--Drilling for gas in Lake Erie is permitted. The Department of Environmental Resources shall enforce the provisions of this section.

Section 1928-A. Drilling for Gas; Procedure.--Drilling for gas in Lake Erie is permitted when done in an environmentally safe manner in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) Drilling shall be limited to eight months each year (April through November).

(2) Before beginning drilling a permit to drill must be received by each drilling company from the Department of Environmental Resources.

(3) All casing and blow out prevention programs must be approved before a drilling permit is granted.

(4) On-site inspection by governmental inspectors must be made during drilling and plugging of all wells, upon prenotification of drilling operator.

(5) Approved oil spill dispersements, equipment, and trained personnel shall be maintained aboard all rigs, including devices to prevent seepage during production.

(6) Each drilling company must carry adequate liability insurance to be used if the government must take action in case of a spill. The Department of Environmental Resources shall promulgate regulations to administer the provisions of this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.