

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 526

Session of
1985

INTRODUCED BY GEIST, D. R. WRIGHT, HAYES, BOWSER, FARGO,
STEWART, HERMAN, MERRY, PETRARCA, G. M. SNYDER, McVERRY,
SEMMELE, REINARD, LLOYD, DORR, RYBAK, LASHINGER, AFFLERBACH,
ROBBINS, OLASZ AND DAWIDA, FEBRUARY 27, 1985

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 27, 1985

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of February 1, 1966 (1965 P.L.1656, No.581),
2 entitled "An act concerning boroughs, and revising, amending
3 and consolidating the law relating to boroughs," making
4 provision for public water service recipients to tap into
5 public water service for the purpose of providing a
6 sufficient water supply for the operation of residential
7 groundwater heat pumps.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 111 of the act of February 1, 1966 (1965
11 P.L.1656, No.581), known as The Borough Code, is amended by
12 adding clauses to read:

13 Section 111. Definitions.--As used in this act, unless the
14 context clearly indicates otherwise, the following words and
15 terms shall be construed as follows:

16 * * *

17 (7) "Residential groundwater heat pump" means a mechanical
18 system designed to utilize the natural heat of the earth by
19 extracting the heat energy in groundwater to provide residential

heating, and by extracting the heat from the air dissipating it into the groundwater to provide residential cooling including, but not limited to, such components as water-to-refrigerant heat exchanger, refrigerant-to-air heat exchanger, refrigerant-to-water heat exchanger and refrigerant compressor.

(8) "Groundwater" means water from aquifers, lakes, wells and any other occurrences of water in and under the ground, whether percolating or otherwise, located on the residential property and water from privately distributed or municipally distributed water systems.

Section 2. Section 1202 of the act is amended by adding a clause to read:

Section 1202. Specific Powers.--The powers of the borough shall be vested in the corporate authorities. Among the specific powers of the borough shall be the following, and in the exercise of any of such powers involving the enactment of any ordinance or the making of any regulation, restriction or prohibition, the borough may provide for the enforcement thereof and may prescribe penalties for the violation thereof or for the failure to conform thereto:

* * *

(39.1) Water supply for groundwater heat pumps. Every borough providing for a supply of water may permit the tapping of a water pipeline for the purpose of providing a sufficient water supply for the operation of residential groundwater heat pumps utilizing a closed-loop system.

Every borough shall charge a one-time tapping fee, not to exceed the normal tap fee for the cost of water service, whenever the owner of any such groundwater heat pump connects such heat pump with a water pipeline. The one-time tapping fee

1 shall constitute the extent of the charges and fees and there
2 shall be no other extraordinary charges and fees. Accordingly,
3 the authority shall not fix, charge or collect any rates or
4 other charges for the supply of water to the groundwater heat
5 pump system.

6 The contractor or supplier of water shall have the
7 unconditional right, at any reasonable time, to inspect the
8 groundwater heat pump connections to the water system to insure
9 the exclusive use of the public water for supply to the
10 groundwater heat pump system.

11 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.