### THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# **HOUSE BILL**

## No. 1202 Session of 1997

INTRODUCED BY STEIL, B. SMITH, KREBS, CARONE, BELFANTI, GORDNER, SCHRODER, ARMSTRONG, HANNA, MILLER, STERN, VAN HORNE, TIGUE, McCALL, STEELMAN, ROSS, TRICH AND SHANER, APRIL 8, 1997

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, APRIL 8, 1997

#### AN ACT

- Authorizing counties to impose sales and use or personal income taxes or in certain circumstances a combination of both; authorizing municipalities to impose personal income and municipal service taxes; authorizing school districts to impose taxes on personal income; providing for the levying, 6 assessment and collection of such taxes; providing for the 7 powers and duties of the Department of Community and Economic 8 Development or any successor agency, the Department of Revenue and the State Treasurer; and providing for 9 limitations on spending by counties, municipalities and 10 school districts. 11
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- 23 Section 327. Disbursements.
- 24 Subchapter D. Municipal Service Tax
- 25 Section 331. Municipal service tax.
- 26 Section 332. Multiple employment locations.
- 27 Section 333. Collection procedures.
- 28 Subchapters E through I (Reserved)
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- 30 Subchapter A. Credits and Exemptions

- 1 Section 501. Credits.
- 2 Section 502. Low-income tax provisions.
- 3 Section 503. Senior citizen tax provisions.
- 4 Section 504. Municipal service tax exemption.
- 5 Section 505. Regulations.
- 6 Subchapter B. Real Estate Tax Deferral
- 7 Section 511. Short title of subchapter.
- 8 Section 512. Findings and legislative intent.
- 9 Section 513. Definitions.
- 10 Section 514. Authority.
- 11 Section 515. Income eligibility.
- 12 Section 516. Tax deferral.
- 13 Section 517. Application procedure.
- 14 Section 518. Contents of application.
- 15 Section 519. Attachment and satisfaction of liens.
- 16 Chapter 7. Disposition of Tax Revenues
- 17 Section 701. Sales tax revenues.
- 18 Section 702. Personal income tax revenues.
- 19 Section 703. Revenue limitation exceptions.
- 20 Chapter 9. Register for Certain Taxes
- 21 Section 901. Definitions.
- 22 Section 902. Register for taxes under this act.
- 23 Section 903. Information for register.
- 24 Section 904. Availability and effective period of register.
- 25 Section 905. Effect of nonfiling.
- 26 Section 906. Effect of chapter on liability of taxpayer.
- 27 Chapter 21. Miscellaneous Provisions
- 28 Section 2101. Effective date.
- 29 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 30 hereby enacts as follows:

1 CHAPTER 1

#### 2 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 3 Section 101. Short title.
- 4 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Optional
- 5 Local Tax Enabling Act.
- 6 Section 102. Definitions.
- 7 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 8 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 9 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 10 "Association." As defined in section 301 of the act of March
- 11 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971.
- 12 "Board of county commissioners." Includes the successor in
- 13 function to the board of county commissioners in a county which
- 14 has adopted a home rule charter under the act of April 13, 1972
- 15 (P.L.184, No.62), known as the Home Rule Charter and Optional
- 16 Plans Law, but does not include the city council of a city of
- 17 the first class or the board of county commissioners of a county
- 18 of the second class.
- 19 "Business." As defined in section 301 of the act of March 4,
- 20 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971.
- 21 "Classes of income." The classes of income set forth in
- 22 section 303 of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as
- 23 the Tax Reform Code of 1971.
- "Compensation." As defined in section 301 of the act of
- 25 March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of
- 26 1971.
- 27 "County." A county-level municipality within this
- 28 Commonwealth, regardless of classification. The term includes a
- 29 county which has adopted a home rule charter or optional plan of
- 30 government under the act of April 13, 1972 (P.L.184, No.62),

- 1 known as the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law. The term
- 2 does not include a county of the first class or a county of the
- 3 second class.
- 4 "Current year." The calendar year or fiscal year for which
- 5 the tax is levied.
- 6 "Department." The Department of Revenue of the Commonwealth.
- 7 "Domicile." As defined in section 13 of the act of December
- 8 31, 1965 (P.L.1257, No.511), known as The Local Tax Enabling
- 9 Act.
- 10 "Employer." As defined in section 301 of the act of March 4,
- 11 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971.
- "Governing body." The board of county commissioners,
- 13 including the successor in function to the board of county
- 14 commissioners in a county which has adopted a home rule charter
- 15 under the act of April 13, 1972 (P.L.184, No.62), known as the
- 16 Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law, city council, borough
- 17 council, incorporated town council, board of township
- 18 commissioners, board of township supervisors, a governing
- 19 council of a home rule municipality or optional plan
- 20 municipality, a governing council of any similar general purpose
- 21 unit of government which may hereafter be created by statute, or
- 22 a board of school directors of a school district. The term does
- 23 not include the city council of a city of the first class or the
- 24 board of county commissioners of a county of the second class.
- 25 "Home rule municipality." A city, borough, incorporated town
- 26 or township which has adopted a home rule charter under the act
- 27 of April 13, 1972 (P.L.184, No.62), known as the Home Rule
- 28 Charter and Optional Plans Law.
- 29 "Individual." As defined in section 301 of the act of March
- 30~4,  $1971~( exttt{P.L.6}$ ,  $exttt{No.2}$ ), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971.

- 1 "Local Tax Enabling Act." The act of December 31, 1965
- 2 (P.L.1257, No.511), known as The Local Tax Enabling Act.
- 3 "Municipal service tax." A tax upon residents and
- 4 nonresidents employed within a municipality.
- 5 "Municipality." A city of the second class, city of the
- 6 second class A, city of the third class, borough, incorporated
- 7 town, township of the first class, township of the second class,
- 8 home rule municipality, optional plan municipality, optional
- 9 form municipality or similar general purpose unit of government
- 10 which may hereafter be created by statute, except a city of the
- 11 first class.
- 12 "Nonresident." An individual domiciled outside the
- 13 municipality.
- 14 "Optional form municipality." A city which has adopted an
- 15 optional form of government under the act of July 15, 1957
- 16 (P.L.901, No.399), known as the Optional Third Class City
- 17 Charter Law.
- 18 "Optional plan municipality." A city, borough, incorporated
- 19 town or township which has adopted an optional plan of
- 20 government under the act of April 13, 1972 (P.L.184, No.62),
- 21 known as the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law.
- 22 "Ordinance." Includes a resolution.
- 23 "Personal income." The classes of income enumerated in
- 24 section 303 of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as
- 25 the Tax Reform Code of 1971, and upon which is imposed a
- 26 personal income tax by the Commonwealth.
- 27 "Preceding year." The calendar year or fiscal year before
- 28 the current year.
- 29 "Register." The register provided for in Chapter 9.
- 30 "Resident individual." An individual who is domiciled in a

- 1 municipality or school district.
- 2 "School district." A school district of the first class A,
- 3 second class, third class or fourth class, including any
- 4 independent school district.
- 5 "Succeeding year." The calendar year or fiscal year
- 6 following the current year.
- 7 "Tax officer." The person, public employee or private agency
- 8 designated by a governing body to collect and administer the
- 9 municipal service tax imposed under this act.
- 10 "Tax Reform Code." The act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2),
- 11 known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971.
- 12 "Taxpayer." An individual required under this act to file a
- 13 tax return or to pay a tax.
- 14 Section 103. Scope.
- 15 (a) General rule.--Except as provided in subsection (b), it
- 16 is the intent of this act to confer upon each county,
- 17 municipality and school district the power to levy, assess and
- 18 collect taxes upon the subjects of taxation set forth in this
- 19 act.
- 20 (b) Real estate transfer taxes. -- This act does not affect
- 21 the powers of a municipality or school district to levy, assess
- 22 and collect a real estate transfer tax.
- 23 Section 104. Preemption.
- 24 No act of the General Assembly heretofore or hereinafter
- 25 enacted shall vacate or preempt any ordinance passed or adopted
- 26 under the authority of this act, or any other act, providing
- 27 authority for the imposition of a tax by a county, municipality
- 28 or school district unless the act of the General Assembly
- 29 expressly vacates or preempts the authority to pass or adopt
- 30 such ordinances.

- 1 Section 105. Rates of taxation in home rule counties.
- 2 A home rule county shall not have the right or authority to
- 3 fix the rate of taxation for the subjects of taxation authorized
- 4 under Chapter 3 in excess of the rates fixed in Chapter 3.
- 5 CHAPTER 3
- 6 SUBJECTS OF TAXATION
- 7 SUBCHAPTER A
- 8 TAX AUTHORIZATION
- 9 Section 301. General tax authorization.
- 10 (a) General rule.--Subject to sections 303 and 304 and
- 11 except as provided in subsection (b), each county, municipality
- 12 or school district shall have the power and may by ordinance
- 13 levy, assess and collect or provide for the levying, assessment
- 14 and collection of such taxes on the subjects specified in this
- 15 chapter for general revenue purposes as it shall determine on
- 16 any or all of the subjects of taxation set forth in this act
- 17 within the geographical limits of the county, municipality or
- 18 school district.
- 19 (b) Exclusions. -- No county, municipality or school district
- 20 which levies a tax authorized by this act shall have any power
- 21 or authority to levy, assess or collect:
- 22 (1) A tax based upon a flat rate or on a millage rate on
- 23 an assessed valuation of a particular trade, occupation or
- 24 profession, commonly known as an occupation tax.
- 25 (2) A tax at a set or flat rate upon persons employed
- 26 within the taxing district, commonly known as an occupational
- 27 privilege tax.
- 28 (3) A per capita, poll, residence or similar head tax.
- 29 (4) The earned income and net profits tax levied under
- 30 the Local Tax Enabling Act.

- 1 (5) Any other tax authorized or permitted under the
- 2 Local Tax Enabling Act.
- 3 (6) An earned income tax under the act of August 24,
- 4 1961 (P.L.1135, No.508), referred to as the First Class A
- 5 School District Earned Income Tax Act, or under the
- 6 additional authority in section 652.1(a)(2) of the act of
- 7 March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School
- 8 Code of 1949.
- 9 (7) Any tax under section 652.1(a)(4) of the Public
- 10 School Code of 1949, except as it pertains to real estate
- 11 transfer taxes.
- 12 (8) The intangible personal property tax under the act
- of June 17, 1913 (P.L.507, No.335), referred to as the
- 14 Intangible Personal Property Tax Law.
- 15 Section 302. Continuity of tax.
- 16 Every tax levied under the provisions of this act shall
- 17 continue in force on a calendar or fiscal year basis, as the
- 18 case may be, without annual reenactment unless the rate of tax
- 19 is increased or the tax is subsequently repealed.
- 20 Section 303. Election to participate under act.
- 21 (a) General rule.--
- 22 (1) Any governing body which desires to participate
- 23 under the provisions of this act shall make that
- 24 determination by using either of the procedures set forth in
- subsection (b) or (c).
- 26 (2) Any governing body after making an election to
- 27 participate under this act may, after a period of at least
- three full calendar years of participation, elect, under the
- 29 provisions of subsection (c), to cease participation under
- 30 this act and levy, assess and collect the taxes prohibited by

- 1 section 301(b) to the extent otherwise provided by law.
- 2 (b) Adoption of ordinance. -- Subject to the requirements of
- 3 section 316(a) or 325(a), whichever is applicable, a governing
- 4 body may elect to participate under this act by adopting an
- 5 ordinance to that effect. The ordinance must set forth the
- 6 initial rate of the tax to be imposed. Any governing body which
- 7 uses the procedures under this subsection shall submit all
- 8 future tax rate increases to public referendum as provided in
- 9 section 304.
- 10 (c) Public referendum. -- Subject to the notice and public
- 11 hearing requirements of section 316(a) or 325(a), whichever is
- 12 applicable, a governing body may elect to participate under this
- 13 act by obtaining the approval of the electorate of the affected
- 14 county, municipality or school district in a public referendum
- 15 at only the November election preceding the calendar year when
- 16 the taxes will be initially imposed. The referendum question
- 17 must state the initial rate of the proposed tax. Any governing
- 18 body which uses the procedures under this section shall not be
- 19 subject to the provisions of section 304 for any future tax rate
- 20 increases.
- 21 Section 304. Public referendum.
- 22 (a) General rule.--Except as provided in subsection (c), a
- 23 governing body which elects to participate under this act
- 24 pursuant to section 303 may not increase the rate of any tax
- 25 imposed under this act or any other act without first obtaining
- 26 the approval of the electorate of the affected county,
- 27 municipality or school district in a public referendum at the
- 28 November election immediately preceding the calendar year of the
- 29 proposed tax increase for entities operating on a calendar year
- 30 fiscal basis and at the primary election for the calendar year

- 1 of the proposed tax increase for entities operating on a July to
- 2 June fiscal basis.
- 3 (b) Disapproval.--Whenever the electorate fails to approve
- 4 the proposed referendum question increasing the rates of tax,
- 5 the governing body shall be limited to the tax rate in effect
- 6 prior to the referendum.
- 7 (c) Referendum exceptions. -- The provisions of subsection (a)
- 8 shall not apply to any necessary tax increases in the following
- 9 cases:
- 10 (1) If an increase in local expenditures is necessary to
- 11 respond to or recover from an emergency or disaster declared
- 12 by the Governor.
- 13 (2) If the political subdivision is required to
- implement a court decision.
- 15 (3) To pay interest and principal on any indebtedness
- incurred under the act of July 12, 1972 (P.L.781, No.185),
- 17 known as the Local Government Unit Debt Act.
- 18 (4) To pay increases in pension fund requirements which
- 19 are in excess of the annual average increase over the
- immediately preceding five fiscal years.
- 21 (5) To respond to a municipality declared to be
- 22 distressed under the act of July 10, 1987 (P.L.246, No.47),
- 23 known as the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act.
- 24 (6) To respond to a school district determined to be
- distressed under sections 691 through 695 of the act of March
- 26 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of
- 27 1949.
- 28 (7) To increase revenues when actual revenues decline
- from the immediately preceding year but only to the extent of
- 30 the revenue decline.

- 1 Section 305. Local tax study commission.
- 2 (a) First-year implementation. -- Before any municipality,
- 3 school district or county levies, assesses or collects, or
- 4 provides for the levy, assessment or collection of, any tax
- 5 under the authority of this act, the governing body may appoint
- 6 a local tax study commission in accordance with the following
- 7 provisions:
- 8 (1) Membership.--The local tax study commission shall
- 9 consist of five, seven or nine members appointed by the
- 10 governing body. One member of the local tax study commission
- 11 may be a member of the governing body, as deemed appropriate
- by the governing body. No member of the local tax study
- commission shall be a relative, by blood or marriage, of an
- official or employee of the municipality, school district or
- county. All members shall be residents of the municipality,
- school district or county. Representatives on a local tax
- study commission must reasonably reflect the socioeconomic,
- age and occupational diversity of the municipality, school
- 19 district or county.
- 20 (2) Staff and expenses.--The governing body shall
- 21 provide necessary and reasonable staff to support the local
- 22 tax study commission and shall reimburse the members of the
- 23 local tax study commission for necessary and reasonable
- 24 expenses in the discharge of their duties.
- 25 (3) Contents of study.--The local tax study commission
- 26 shall study the existing taxes levied, assessed and collected
- 27 by the municipality, school district or county and determine
- if and how the tax policies of the municipality, school
- 29 district or county could be strengthened or made more
- 30 equitable by adopting for levy, assessment and collection one

- or a combination of any of the following taxes: personal
- income tax, real estate tax, realty transfer tax or amusement
- 3 tax at such levels and in such combinations on permissible
- 4 subjects of taxation as do not exceed the limitations in this
- 5 act. This study shall include, but not be limited to,
- 6 consideration of all of the following:
  - (i) Historic rate and revenue provided by taxes currently levied, assessed and collected by the municipality, school district or county.
    - (ii) The percentage of total revenues provided by taxes currently levied, assessed and collected.
    - (iii) The age, income, employment and property use characteristics of the existing tax base.
    - (iv) The projected revenues of any taxes currently levied, assessed and collected.
    - (v) The projected revenues of any taxes referred to in this paragraph not currently levied, assessed and collected by the municipality, school district or county.
- 19 (4) Recommendation. -- Within 60 days of its appointment, 20 the local tax study commission shall make a nonbinding 21 recommendation to the governing body of the appropriate tax 22 or combination of taxes, identified in paragraph (3), to be 23 levied, assessed and collected commencing the next fiscal year. Upon appointment of the commission and except as 24 25 provided for in paragraph (5), no tax may be levied, assessed 26 or collected for the next fiscal year until receipt of the recommendation of the local tax study commission. No later 27 28 than 30 days prior to the commencement of the next fiscal 29 year, the governing body shall accept or reject the

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recommendation of the local tax study commission or adopt any

- other appropriate tax or combination of taxes for the municipality, school district or county commencing the next fiscal year as provided by law.
  - (5) Failure to issue recommendation.—If the local tax study commission fails to make a nonbinding recommendation within 60 days of its appointment, the governing body shall discharge the appointed local tax study commission and appoint itself as the local tax study commission. No later than 30 days prior to the commencement of the next fiscal year, the governing body shall adopt the appropriate tax or combination of taxes for the municipality, school district or county commencing the next fiscal year as provided by law.
  - (6) Public distribution of report.--The local tax study commission shall publish or cause to be published, within 30 days of making its recommendation, a final report of its activities and recommendations and shall deliver the final report to the secretary or chief clerk of the municipality, school district or county who shall supply copies to any interested persons upon request.
  - (7) Receipts.--Receipts are required for all reimbursable expenses.
- 22 (8) Materials.--All the records, receipts, tapes,
  23 minutes of meetings and written discussions of the local tax
  24 study commission shall, upon its discharge, be turned over to
  25 the secretary or chief clerk of the municipality, school
  26 district or county for permanent safekeeping. The secretary
  27 or chief clerk shall make such materials available for public
  28 inspection at any time during regular business hours.
- 29 (9) Discharge.--The local tax study commission shall be 30 discharged upon the filing of its final report.

- 1 (b) Three-year review.--Any municipality, school district or
- 2 county that levies, assesses and collects, or provides for the
- 3 levy, assessment or collection of, any tax, after having
- 4 received the recommendations of a local tax study commission and
- 5 acted, shall continue to levy, assess and collect the same tax
- 6 or combination of taxes for the next three fiscal years.
- 7 However, nothing herein shall preclude the governing body from
- 8 changing or altering the rates of any such tax or combination of
- 9 taxes if it deems necessary. Before the third fiscal year
- 10 following the municipality, school district or county action on
- 11 the recommendations of a local tax study commission and every
- 12 third fiscal year thereafter, the governing body may appoint a
- 13 local tax study commission in the manner provided in subsection
- 14 (a). The local tax study commission appointed under this
- 15 subsection shall be charged with all of the same powers and
- 16 duties provided for the local tax study commission under
- 17 subsection (a). In the event the municipality, school district
- 18 or county does not appoint a local tax study commission under
- 19 this subsection after having previously acted on the
- 20 recommendations of a local tax study commission, the
- 21 municipality, school district or county shall continue to levy,
- 22 assess and collect the same tax or combination of taxes for the
- 23 next three fiscal years.
- 24 SUBCHAPTER B
- 25 COUNTY SALES AND USE TAX
- 26 Section 311. Construction.
- 27 The tax imposed by the governing body of a county under this
- 28 subchapter shall be in addition to any tax imposed by the
- 29 Commonwealth under Article II of the Tax Reform Code. Except for
- 30 the differing situs provisions under section 313, the provisions

- 1 of Article II of the Tax Reform Code shall apply to the tax.
- 2 Section 312. Imposition.
- 3 (a) Sales.--The governing body of a county may levy and
- 4 assess upon each separate sale at retail of tangible personal
- 5 property or services, as defined in Article II of the Tax Reform
- 6 Code, within the boundaries of the county, a tax on the purchase
- 7 price. The tax shall be collected by the vendor from the
- 8 purchaser and shall be paid over to the Commonwealth as provided
- 9 in this subchapter.
- 10 (b) Use.--In any county within which the tax authorized in
- 11 subsection (a) is imposed, there shall be levied, assessed and
- 12 collected upon the use, within the county, of tangible personal
- 13 property purchased at retail, and on services purchased at
- 14 retail, as defined in Article II of the Tax Reform Code, a tax
- 15 on the purchase price. The tax shall be paid over to the
- 16 Commonwealth by the person who makes the use. The use tax
- 17 imposed under this subchapter shall not be paid over to the
- 18 Commonwealth by any person who has paid the tax imposed by
- 19 subsection (a) or has paid the tax imposed by this subsection to
- 20 the vendor with respect to the use.
- 21 (c) Occupancy. -- In any county within which a tax authorized
- 22 by subsection (a) is imposed, there shall be levied, assessed
- 23 and collected an excise tax on the rent upon every occupancy of
- 24 a room or rooms in a hotel in the county. The tax shall be
- 25 collected by the operator or owner from the occupant and paid
- 26 over to the Commonwealth.
- 27 (d) Rate and uniformity.--
- 28 (1) The tax authorized by subsections (a), (b) and (c)
- 29 shall be imposed at a rate of 1%.
- 30 (2) The tax imposed by subsections (a), (b) and (c)

- 1 shall be uniform.
- 2 (e) Computation. -- The tax imposed under this section shall
- 3 be computed in the manner set forth in section 503(e)(2) of the
- 4 act of June 5, 1991 (P.L.9, No.6), known as the Pennsylvania
- 5 Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority Act for Cities of the
- 6 First Class.
- 7 Section 313. Situs.
- 8 The situs of sales at retail or uses, including leases, of
- 9 motor vehicles, aircraft, motorcraft and utility services shall
- 10 be determined in the manner specified by section 504 of the act
- 11 of June 5, 1991 (P.L.9, No.6), known as the Pennsylvania
- 12 Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority Act for Cities of the
- 13 First Class.
- 14 Section 314. Licenses.
- 15 A license for the collection of the tax imposed by this
- 16 subchapter shall be issued in the same manner as is provided for
- 17 in section 505 of the act of June 5, 1991 (P.L.9, No.6), known
- 18 as the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority Act
- 19 for Cities of the First Class. Licensees shall be entitled to
- 20 the same discount as provided in section 227 of the Tax Reform
- 21 Code.
- 22 Section 315. Rules and regulations; collection costs.
- 23 (a) Regulations.--Rules and regulations shall be applicable
- 24 to the taxes imposed under section 312 in the same manner as is
- 25 provided for in section 506(1) and (2) of the act of June 5,
- 26 1991 (P.L.9, No.6), known as the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental
- 27 Cooperation Authority Act for Cities of the First Class.
- 28 (b) Administrative costs.--The department, to cover its
- 29 costs of administration, shall be entitled to retain a sum equal
- 30 to 1% of the revenues collected under this subchapter for its

- 1 administrative costs. When the annual operating budget for the
- 2 department is submitted to the General Assembly, the department
- 3 shall also submit to the chairman and minority chairman of the
- 4 Appropriations Committee of the Senate and to the chairman and
- 5 minority chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House
- 6 of Representatives the actual sums retained for costs of
- 7 collection in the preceding fiscal year, together with all
- 8 supporting details.
- 9 Section 316. Procedure and administration.
- 10 (a) Ordinance. -- Any county desiring to impose the tax
- 11 authorized by section 312 shall give at least 60 days' written
- 12 notice to every municipality and school district located in the
- 13 county of its intent to impose the tax and shall adopt an
- 14 ordinance after the expiration of 60 days after the date of such
- 15 notice. The notice and an ordinance shall state the tax rate and
- 16 refer to this subchapter. The ordinance shall authorize the
- 17 imposition of all taxes provided for in section 312. Prior to
- 18 adopting an ordinance imposing the tax authorized by section
- 19 312, the governing body of the county shall give public notice
- 20 of its intent to adopt the ordinance in the manner provided by
- 21 section 4 of the Local Tax Enabling Act and shall conduct at
- 22 least one public hearing regarding the proposed adoption of the
- 23 ordinance.
- 24 (b) Notification to department. -- A certified copy of the
- 25 county ordinance shall be delivered to the department by
- 26 September 1 of the year prior to the effective date thereof. The
- 27 county ordinance shall become effective on the January 1
- 28 following at least four months after the date of enactment of
- 29 the county ordinance.
- 30 (c) Delivery of repeal ordinance.--A certified copy of a

- 1 repeal ordinance shall be delivered to the department at least
- 2 30 days prior to the effective date of the repeal.
- 3 Section 317. County sales and use tax funds.
- 4 There is hereby created for each county levying the tax under
- 5 section 312 the (proper name) County Sales and Use Tax Fund. The
- 6 State Treasurer shall be custodian of the funds which shall be
- 7 subject to the provisions of law applicable to funds listed in
- 8 section 302 of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known
- 9 as The Fiscal Code. Taxes imposed under section 312 shall be
- 10 received by the department and paid to the State Treasurer and,
- 11 along with interest and penalties, less any collection costs
- 12 allowed under this subchapter and any refunds and credits paid,
- 13 shall be credited to the funds not less frequently than every
- 14 two weeks. During any period prior to the credit of moneys to
- 15 the funds, interest earned on moneys received by the department
- 16 and paid to the State Treasurer under this subchapter shall be
- 17 deposited into the funds. All moneys in the funds, including,
- 18 but not limited to, moneys credited to the funds under this
- 19 section, prior year encumbrances and the interest earned
- 20 thereon, shall not lapse or be transferred to any other fund,
- 21 but shall remain in the funds. Pending their disbursement,
- 22 moneys received on behalf of or deposited into the funds shall
- 23 be invested or reinvested as are other moneys in the custody of
- 24 the State Treasurer in the manner provided by law. All earnings
- 25 received from the investment or reinvestment of the moneys shall
- 26 be credited to the respective funds.
- 27 Section 318. Disbursements.
- 28 (a) General rule. -- On or before the tenth day of every
- 29 month, the State Treasurer shall make the disbursements on
- 30 behalf of the county imposing the tax out of the moneys which

- 1 are, as of the last day of the previous month, contained in the
- 2 respective county sales and use tax fund.
- 3 (b) Disbursement to counties.--
- 4 (1) The State Treasurer shall disburse to a county
- 5 imposing the tax authorized under section 312 an amount of
- 6 money equal to 50% of the tax collected in that county and
- 7 remitted to the department and deposited in the respective
- 8 county sales and use tax fund.
- 9 (2) An amount of money equal to the remaining 50% of the
- 10 tax collected in that county shall be allocated to all of the
- 11 municipalities and school districts within that county as
- 12 follows:
- 13 (i) 25% shall be allocated to all municipalities
- 14 within the county. Each municipality shall be allocated a
- portion as computed under section 320(a).
- 16 (ii) 25% shall be allocated to all school districts
- 17 within the county. Each school district shall be
- allocated a portion as computed under section 320(a).
- 19 (3) The State Treasurer shall disburse to a county, in
- addition to its share under paragraph (1), an amount of money
- 21 equal to the allocations to nonqualified municipalities and
- 22 school districts within the county.
- 23 (4) The county shall deposit the revenue from the
- 24 respective county sales and use tax fund into the county
- 25 general fund for disposition as provided under section
- 26 701(a).
- 27 (c) Disbursement to municipalities.--The State Treasurer
- 28 shall, at the same time, disburse to the qualified
- 29 municipalities an amount of money equal to their allocations
- 30 under paragraph (2)(i). Each municipality's portion shall be

- 1 deposited in the municipal general fund for disposition as
- 2 provided in section 701(b).
- 3 (d) Disbursement to school districts.--The State Treasurer
- 4 shall, at the same time, disburse to the qualified school
- 5 districts an amount of money equal to their allocations under
- 6 paragraph (2)(ii). Each school district's portion shall be
- 7 deposited in the school district's general fund for disposition
- 8 as provided in section 701(b).
- 9 (e) Penalty.--If disbursements are not made on or before the
- 10 tenth day of each month, a 5% penalty shall be added thereto
- 11 plus an additional 1% late charge per month delayed.
- 12 Section 319. Adoption of municipal ordinances and school
- district petitions.
- 14 (a) General rule. -- No municipality shall be entitled to a
- 15 disbursement under section 318(c) and no school district shall
- 16 be entitled to a disbursement under section 318(d) unless one of
- 17 the following applies:
- 18 (1) Prior to enactment of the county ordinance, it
- 19 adopts a municipal ordinance or a school district petition
- 20 containing the statement:
- 21 We strongly urge the county to enact a county sales
- and use tax and intend to accept disbursements of the
- sales and use taxes collected.
- 24 Any municipality which does not enact an ordinance and any
- 25 school district which does not enact a petition in compliance
- 26 with this paragraph shall not be entitled to and shall not
- 27 receive any distribution from funds collected during the
- first 24 months immediately following the initial date of
- 29 imposition of such tax.
- 30 (2) Prior to October 1 of any year after the enactment

- of the county resolution, it adopts a municipal ordinance or
- 2 a school district petition containing the statement:
- 3 We support the enactment by the county of the county
- 4 sales and use tax and strongly urge its continuation
- and intend to accept disbursements of the sales and
- 6 use taxes collected.
- 7 (b) Delivery.--A certified copy of the municipal ordinance
- 8 or the school district petition shall be delivered to the county
- 9 commissioners on or before the enactment of the county
- 10 resolution or October 15 of any year thereafter, as the case may
- 11 be.
- 12 Section 320. Allocations and qualifications.
- 13 (a) Allocations.--The State Treasurer shall compute
- 14 allocations to municipalities and school districts in the manner
- 15 provided in this section. Each municipality shall be allocated a
- 16 portion of the total allocation to municipalities which is equal
- 17 to the total allocation to municipalities multiplied by the
- 18 ratio of weighted tax revenues of the municipality divided by
- 19 the sum of the weighted tax revenues of all municipalities
- 20 located in the county. Each school district shall be allocated a
- 21 portion of the total allocation to school districts which is
- 22 equal to the total allocation to school districts multiplied by
- 23 the ratio of average daily membership of the school district
- 24 divided by the sum of the average daily membership of all school
- 25 districts in the county. For the purposes of this section,
- 26 "average daily membership" shall mean "average daily membership"
- 27 as defined by the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known
- 28 as the Public School Code of 1949.
- 29 (b) Qualifications.--Municipalities and school districts
- 30 qualified to receive disbursements under section 318(c) or (d)

- 1 are municipalities and school districts located within the
- 2 county, which:
- 3 (1) adopt in a timely fashion, the ordinance or petition
- 4 required under section 319; and
- 5 (2) adopt the necessary ordinances or, in the case of
- 6 school districts, take the legally necessary action and
- 7 impose the taxes authorized under this act.
- 8 (c) Limited definition.--For the purpose of this section,
- 9 weighted tax revenues are total tax revenues from all sources of
- 10 a municipality divided by the ratio of its per capita market
- 11 value to the per capita market value of its county. The per
- 12 capita market value means the total market value of all real
- 13 property divided by population as determined by the most recent
- 14 decennial census. Calculations of weighted tax revenues shall be
- 15 made by the Department of Community Affairs or any successor
- 16 agency and certified to the State Treasurer based upon
- 17 information reported to the Department of Community Affairs or
- 18 any successor agency, subject to review, verification and
- 19 approval by the Department of Community Affairs or any successor
- 20 agency.
- 21 SUBCHAPTER C
- 22 PERSONAL INCOME TAX
- 23 Section 321. Construction.
- 24 The tax imposed by the governing body of a municipality or
- 25 school district under this subchapter shall be in addition to
- 26 any tax imposed by the Commonwealth under Article III of the Tax
- 27 Reform Code. Except for the differing provisions under sections
- 28 501, 502 and 503, the provisions of Article III of the Tax
- 29 Reform Code shall apply to the tax.
- 30 Section 322. Personal income tax.

- 1 (a) Municipalities.--A municipality shall have the power to
- 2 levy, assess and collect a tax on the personal income of
- 3 resident individuals of the municipality up to a maximum rate of
- 4 1%, in increments of 0.25 of 1%.
- 5 (b) School districts.--Each school district shall have the
- 6 power to levy, assess and collect a tax on personal income of
- 7 resident individuals of the school district up to a maximum rate
- 8 of 2%, in increments of 0.25 of 1%.
- 9 (c) Counties. -- In lieu of imposing the tax under section
- 10 312, each county shall have the power and may levy, assess and
- 11 collect a tax on the personal income of resident taxpayers of
- 12 the county up to a maximum rate of 0.5%, in increments of 0.25%.
- 13 Any county which imposes a tax under this subsection may not
- 14 impose any tax under section 312.
- 15 Section 323. Collections.
- 16 (a) General rule. -- The department shall be responsible for
- 17 the collection of any tax imposed by a county under section
- 18 322(c).
- 19 (b) Municipalities and school districts.--Any municipality
- 20 or school district imposing a tax under section 322(a) or (b)
- 21 shall have the option and may:
- 22 (1) enter into an agreement with the department to
- 23 collect the taxes as provided in this subchapter; or
- 24 (2) designate the tax officer who is appointed under
- section 10 of the Local Tax Enabling Act, or otherwise by
- law, as the collector of the municipality or school district
- 27 personal income tax. In the performance of the tax collection
- 28 duties under this subchapter, the designated tax officer
- shall have all the same powers, rights, responsibilities and
- duties for the collection of the taxes which may be imposed

- 1 under the Local Tax Enabling Act or otherwise by law.
- 2 Section 324. Rules and regulations; collection costs.
- 3 (a) Regulations.--Rules and regulations shall be applicable
- 4 to the taxes imposed under section 322 in the same manner as is
- 5 provided for in Article III of the Tax Reform Code.
- 6 (b) Administrative costs. -- The department, to cover its
- 7 costs of administration, shall be entitled to retain a sum equal
- 8 to 1% of the revenues collected under this subchapter for its
- 9 administrative costs. When the annual operating budget for the
- 10 department is submitted to the General Assembly, the department
- 11 shall also submit to the chairman and minority chairman of the
- 12 Appropriations Committee of the Senate and to the chairman and
- 13 minority chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House
- 14 of Representatives the actual sums retained for costs of
- 15 collection in the preceding fiscal year, together with all
- 16 supporting details.
- 17 Section 325. Procedure and administration.
- 18 (a) Ordinance. -- The governing body of the municipality,
- 19 school district or county, in order to impose the tax authorized
- 20 by section 322, shall adopt an ordinance which shall refer to
- 21 this subchapter. Prior to adopting an ordinance imposing the tax
- 22 authorized by section 322, the respective governing body shall
- 23 give public notice of its intent to adopt the ordinance in the
- 24 manner provided by section 4 of the Local Tax Enabling Act, and
- 25 shall conduct at least one public hearing regarding the proposed
- 26 adoption of the ordinance.
- 27 (b) Delivery.--A certified copy of the ordinance imposing
- 28 the tax shall be delivered to the department no later than 90
- 29 days prior to the effective date of the ordinance.
- 30 (c) Delivery of repeal ordinance.--A certified copy of a

- 1 repeal ordinance shall be delivered to the department at least
- 2 30 days prior to the effective date of the repeal.
- 3 Section 326. Local personal income tax funds.
- 4 There is hereby created for each municipality, school
- 5 district and county levying the tax under section 322 the
- 6 (proper name) Personal Income Tax Fund. The State Treasurer
- 7 shall be custodian of the funds which shall be subject to the
- 8 provisions of law applicable to funds listed in section 302 of
- 9 the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal
- 10 Code. Taxes imposed under section 322 shall be received by the
- 11 department and paid to the State Treasurer and, along with
- 12 interest and penalties, less any collection costs allowed under
- 13 this subchapter and any refunds and credits paid, shall be
- 14 credited to the funds not less frequently than every two weeks.
- 15 During any period prior to the credit of moneys to the funds,
- 16 interest earned on moneys received by the department and paid to
- 17 the State Treasurer under this subchapter shall be deposited
- 18 into the funds. All moneys in the funds, including, but not
- 19 limited to, moneys credited to the funds under this section,
- 20 prior year encumbrances and the interest earned thereon, shall
- 21 not lapse or be transferred to any other fund, but shall remain
- 22 in the funds. Pending their disbursement, moneys received on
- 23 behalf of or deposited into the funds shall be invested or
- 24 reinvested as are other moneys in the custody of the State
- 25 Treasurer in the manner provided by law. All earnings received
- 26 from the investment or reinvestment of the moneys shall be
- 27 credited to the respective funds.
- 28 Section 327. Disbursements.
- On or before the April 10, July 10, October 10 and the next
- 30 succeeding January 10, the State Treasurer shall make the

- 1 disbursements to each municipality, school district and county
- 2 imposing the tax out of the moneys which are, as of the last day
- 3 of the previous month, contained in the respective personal
- 4 income tax funds. If disbursements are not made on or before the
- 5 dates listed in this section, a 5% penalty shall be added
- 6 thereto plus a 1% late charge per month delayed. This section
- 7 shall only apply to a municipality or school district which
- 8 elects to have the department collect the taxes as provided in
- 9 section 323(b)(1) and to a county which imposes a tax under
- 10 section 322(c).
- 11 SUBCHAPTER D
- 12 MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAX
- 13 Section 331. Municipal service tax.
- 14 (a) General rule. -- Subject to the limitations established in
- 15 section 332, each municipality in which a taxpayer is employed
- 16 may levy, assess and collect a municipal service tax.
- 17 (b) Amount of tax.--A municipal service tax levied by a
- 18 municipality under an ordinance passed under the authority of
- 19 this act shall not exceed \$10.
- 20 (c) Situs for tax. -- Subject to the limitations in section
- 21 332, the situs of a municipal service tax shall be the place of
- 22 employment.
- 23 Section 332. Multiple employment locations.
- 24 (a) Priority of claim. -- In the event a person is engaged in
- 25 more than one occupation or an occupation which requires the
- 26 person to work in more than one municipality during the calendar
- 27 year, the priority of claim to collect the municipal service tax
- 28 shall be in the following order:
- 29 (1) The municipality in which a person maintains his
- 30 principal office or is principally employed.

- 1 (2) The municipality in which the person resides and
- works if the tax is levied by that municipality.
- 3 (3) The municipality nearest in miles to the person's
- 4 home in which the person is employed if the tax is levied by
- 5 that municipality.
- 6 (b) Place of employment. -- The place of employment shall be
- 7 determined as of the day the taxpayer first becomes subject to
- 8 the tax during the calendar year.
- 9 (c) Liability.--No person shall be required to pay more than
- 10 \$10 in any calendar year without regard to the number of
- 11 municipalities within which the person may be employed.
- 12 Section 333. Collection procedures.
- 13 (a) Collector. -- Any municipality which imposes a tax under
- 14 section 331 shall designate the tax officer who is appointed
- 15 under section 10 of the Local Tax Enabling Act, or otherwise by
- 16 law, as the collector of the municipality municipal services
- 17 tax. In the performance of the tax collection duties under this
- 18 subchapter, the designated tax officer shall have all the same
- 19 powers, rights, responsibilities and duties for the collection
- 20 of the taxes which may be imposed under the Local Tax Enabling
- 21 Act, or otherwise by law.
- 22 (b) Employer withholding.--Any municipality imposing a
- 23 municipal service tax shall have the power and may by ordinance
- 24 require employers to withhold the municipal service tax from the
- 25 compensation of employees. Any municipality which requires
- 26 employer withholding shall follow the procedures set forth in
- 27 the Local Tax Enabling Act.
- 28 SUBCHAPTERS E THROUGH I (Reserved)
- 29 CHAPTER 5
- 30 CREDITS, EXEMPTIONS AND DEFERRALS

1 SUBCHAPTER A

#### 2 CREDITS AND EXEMPTIONS

- 3 Section 501. Credits.
- 4 The provisions of section 14 of the Local Tax Enabling Act
- 5 shall be used to determine any credits under the provisions of
- 6 this act for any taxes imposed under section 322.
- 7 Section 502. Low-income tax provisions.
- 8 The provisions of section 304 of the Tax Reform Code shall be
- 9 applied by any municipality, school district or county which
- 10 levies a tax under section 322 to any qualified individual under
- 11 65 years of age.
- 12 Section 503. Senior citizen tax provisions.
- 13 Each individual 65 years of age or older shall be entitled to
- 14 receive the first \$6,300 of any personal income free of any
- 15 municipal, school district or county tax imposed under section
- 16 322. Any personal income in excess of \$6,300 per individual
- 17 shall be subject to any tax levied under section 322.
- 18 Section 504. Municipal service tax exemption.
- 19 Each municipality which levies a municipal service tax shall
- 20 have the power and may, by ordinance, exempt any person whose
- 21 total compensation is less than \$6,300 from the municipal
- 22 service tax.
- 23 Section 505. Regulations.
- 24 Each county, municipality or school district may adopt
- 25 regulations for the processing of claims under sections 501,
- 26 502, 503 and 504.
- 27 SUBCHAPTER B
- 28 REAL ESTATE TAX DEFERRAL
- 29 Section 511. Short title of subchapter.
- This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the Real

- 1 Estate Tax Deferment Program Act.
- 2 Section 512. Findings and legislative intent.
- 3 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds as follows:
- 4 (1) Many tax jurisdictions are forced into an increasing
- 5 reliance on the real property tax.
- 6 (2) The high level of real property taxes in some taxing
- 7 jurisdictions makes it difficult for many individuals to keep
- 8 a home.
- 9 (3) The high level of real property taxes in many taxing
- 10 jurisdictions creates a tremendous hardship on many
- 11 taxpayers, especially those on fixed incomes.
- 12 (4) When counties conduct countywide reassessments, many
- taxpayers experience substantial increases in their real
- 14 property taxes.
- 15 (b) Intent.--It is the intent of the General Assembly to
- 16 provide relief to residential property owners from tax increases
- 17 caused by changes in the millage rate, or assessment rates or
- 18 method or by a countywide reassessment. It is the further intent
- 19 of the General Assembly to create a program which will allow
- 20 counties, municipalities and school districts to defer the
- 21 increased portion of real property taxes when certain conditions
- 22 are met.
- 23 Section 513. Definitions.
- 24 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter
- 25 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 26 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 27 "Base payment." The amount of property tax paid by an
- 28 applicant in the base year.
- "Base year." The tax year preceding the first tax year for
- 30 which a taxing authority implements the provisions of this

- 1 subchapter or the tax year immediately preceding an applicant's
- 2 entry into the tax deferral program.
- 3 "Claimant." A person who qualifies as a claimant under the
- 4 provisions of the act of March 11, 1971 (P.L.104, No.3), known
- 5 as the Senior Citizens Rebate and Assistance Act, whether or not
- 6 a claim is filed under that act and whose household income does
- 7 not exceed the limit provided for in section 515.
- 8 "Homestead." Real property which qualifies as a homestead
- 9 under the provisions of the act of March 11, 1971 (P.L.104,
- 10 No.3), known as the Senior Citizens Rebate and Assistance Act,
- 11 except real property which is rented or leased to a claimant.
- 12 "Household income." All income as defined in the act of
- 13 March 11, 1971 (P.L.104, No.3), known as the Senior Citizens
- 14 Rebate and Assistance Act, received by the claimant and by the
- 15 claimant's spouse while residing in the homestead during the
- 16 calendar year for which a tax deferral is claimed.
- 17 "Increases in property taxes." An increase in the property
- 18 tax above the base payment, resulting from a millage increase, a
- 19 change in the assessment ratio or method, or any other reason.
- 20 "Taxing authority." A county, city, borough, town, township
- 21 and school district that has elected to participate under this
- 22 act in accordance with section 303.
- 23 Section 514. Authority.
- 24 All taxing authorities shall have the power and authority to
- 25 grant annual tax deferrals in the manner provided in this
- 26 subchapter.
- 27 Section 515. Income eligibility.
- 28 (a) First year of enactment.--During the first calendar year
- 29 this subchapter takes effect, a person shall be eligible for a
- 30 tax deferral if the person has a household income of \$15,000 or

- 1 less.
- 2 (b) Subsequent years. -- The amount of household income
- 3 provided for in subsection (a) shall be increased \$500 each
- 4 calendar year following the calendar year this subchapter takes
- 5 effect.
- 6 Section 516. Tax deferral.
- 7 (a) Amount.--An annual real estate tax deferral granted
- 8 under this subchapter shall equal the increase in real property
- 9 taxes in excess of the person's base payment.
- 10 (b) Prohibition.--No tax deferrals shall be granted if the
- 11 total amount of deferred taxes, plus the total amount of all
- 12 other unsatisfied liens on the homestead of the claimant,
- 13 exceeds 85% of the market value of the homestead or if the
- 14 outstanding principal on any and all mortgages on the homestead
- 15 exceeds 70% of the market value of the homestead. Market value
- 16 shall equal assessed value divided by the common level ratio as
- 17 most recently determined by the State Tax Equalization Board for
- 18 the county in which the property is located.
- 19 Section 517. Application procedure.
- 20 (a) Initial application. -- Any person eligible for a tax
- 21 deferral under this subchapter may apply annually to the taxing
- 22 authority. In the initial year of application, the following
- 23 information shall be provided in the manner required by the
- 24 taxing authority:
- 25 (1) A statement of request for the tax deferral.
- 26 (2) A certification that the applicant or the applicant
- and his or her spouse jointly are the owners in fee simple
- and residents of the property upon which the real property
- 29 taxes are imposed.
- 30 (3) A certification that the applicant's residence is

- adequately insured under a homeowner's policy to the extent
- of all outstanding liens.
- 3 (4) Receipts showing timely payment of the current
- 4 year's nondeferred real property tax liability.
- 5 (5) Proof of income eligibility under section 515.
- 6 (b) Subsequent years.--After the initial entry into the
- 7 program, a claimant shall remain eligible for tax deferral in
- 8 subsequent years so long as the claimant continues to meet the
- 9 eligibility requirements of this subchapter.
- 10 Section 518. Contents of application.
- 11 Any application for a tax deferral distributed to persons
- 12 shall contain the following:
- 13 (1) A statement that the tax deferral granted under this
- subchapter is provided in exchange for a lien against the
- 15 homestead of the applicant.
- 16 (2) An explanation of the manner in which the deferred
- taxes shall become due, payable and delinquent and include,
- at a minimum, the consequences of noncompliance with the
- 19 provisions of this subchapter.
- 20 Section 519. Attachment and satisfaction of liens.
- 21 (a) Nature of lien.--All taxes deferred under this
- 22 subchapter shall constitute a prior lien on the homestead of the
- 23 claimant in favor of the taxing authority and shall attach as of
- 24 the date and in the same manner as other liens for taxes. The
- 25 deferred taxes shall be collected as other liens for taxes, but
- 26 the deferred taxes shall be due, payable and delinquent only as
- 27 provided in subsection (b), and no interest shall be collected
- 28 on the lien.
- 29 (b) Payment.--
- 30 (1) All or part of the deferred taxes may at any time be

- 1 paid to the taxing authority.
- 2 (2) In the event that the deferred taxes are not paid by
- 3 the claimant or the claimant's spouse during his or her
- 4 lifetime or during their continued ownership of the property,
- 5 the deferred taxes shall be paid either:
- 6 (i) prior to the conveyance of the property to any
- 7 third party; or
- 8 (ii) prior to the passing of the legal or equitable
- 9 title, either by will or by statute, to the heirs of the
- 10 claimant or the claimant's spouse.
- 11 (3) The surviving spouse of a claimant shall not be
- 12 required to pay the deferred taxes by reason of his or her
- acquisition of the property due to death of the claimant as
- long as the surviving spouse maintains his or her residence
- in the property. The surviving spouse may continue to
- 16 participate in the tax deferral program in subsequent years
- 17 provided he or she is eligible under the provisions of this
- 18 subchapter.
- 19 CHAPTER 7
- 20 DISPOSITION OF TAX REVENUES
- 21 Section 701. Sales tax revenues.
- 22 (a) Counties. -- One hundred percent of any additional
- 23 revenues from the sales and use tax shall be used to offset the
- 24 lost revenues from the prohibition on intangible personal
- 25 property tax and then to reduce or eliminate the following taxes
- 26 in the order set forth. The taxes to be reduced or eliminated
- 27 are as follows:
- 28 (1) The county per capita tax.
- 29 (2) The county occupational assessment tax, whether
- 30 based on a flat rate or a millage rate.

- 1 (3) The county real property tax reduced by means of the
- 2 universal exemption or by means of a uniform reduction in the
- 3 millage rate or any combination thereof.
- 4 (b) Municipalities and school districts under Chapter 3.--
- 5 All sales and use tax revenues received by any municipality or
- 6 school district which has elected to proceed under the
- 7 provisions of this act shall be used to reduce the municipal
- 8 real property tax or the school district real property tax,
- 9 respectively, by means of the universal exemption or a uniform
- 10 reduction in the millage rate or any combination thereof.
- 11 Section 702. Personal income tax revenues.
- 12 (a) Municipalities. -- One hundred percent of any additional
- 13 revenues from the personal income tax shall be used to offset
- 14 the lost revenues from the taxes prohibited under section 301(b)
- 15 and then to reduce the municipal real property tax by means of
- 16 the universal exemption or a uniform reduction in the millage
- 17 rate or any combination thereof.
- 18 (b) School districts. -- One hundred percent of any additional
- 19 revenues from the personal income tax shall be used to offset
- 20 the lost revenues from the taxes prohibited under section 301(b)
- 21 and then to reduce the school district real property tax by
- 22 means of the universal exemption or a uniform reduction in the
- 23 millage rate or any combination thereof.
- 24 (c) Counties. -- One hundred percent of any additional
- 25 revenues from the personal income tax shall be used to offset
- 26 the lost revenues from the taxes prohibited under section 301(b)
- 27 and then to reduce the county real property tax by means of the
- 28 universal exemption or a uniform reduction in the millage rate
- 29 or any combination thereof.
- 30 Section 703. Revenue limitation exceptions.

- 1 The limitations relating to the reduction or elimination of
- 2 taxes in sections 701 and 702 may be waived, but only to the
- 3 degree necessary, in the following cases:
- 4 (1) If an increase in local expenditures is necessary to
- 5 respond to or recover from an emergency or disaster declared
- 6 by the Governor.
- 7 (2) If the political subdivision is required to
- 8 implement a court decision.
- 9 (3) To pay interest and principal on any indebtedness
- incurred under the act of July 12, 1972 (P.L.781, No.185),
- 11 known as the Local Government Unit Debt Act or 53 Pa.C.S.
- 12 Part VII (relating to taxation and fiscal affairs).
- 13 (4) To pay increases in pension fund requirements which
- 14 are in excess of the annual average increase over the
- immediately preceding five fiscal years.
- 16 (5) To respond to a municipality declared to be
- 17 distressed under the act of July 10, 1987 (P.L.246, No.47),
- 18 known as the Municipalities Financial Recovery Act.
- 19 (6) To respond to a school district determined to be
- 20 distressed under sections 691 through 695 of the act of March
- 21 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of
- 22 1949.
- 23 (7) To increase revenues when actual revenues decline
- from the immediately preceding year but only to the extent of
- 25 the revenue decline.
- 26 (8) To increase school district revenues unless the
- 27 revenue generated per student reflects an actual increase
- from the revenue generated per student in the immediately
- 29 preceding year.
- 30 (9) If the increase does not exceed the limitations on

- 1 millage rates for real property under the act of June 23,
- 2 1931 (P.L.932, No.317), known as The Third Class City Code,
- 3 the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The
- 4 First Class Township Code, the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103,
- 5 No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, and the act
- of February 1, 1966 (1965 P.L.1656, No.581), known as The
- 7 Borough Code.
- 8 CHAPTER 9
- 9 REGISTER FOR CERTAIN TAXES
- 10 Section 901. Definitions.
- 11 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
- 12 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 13 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 14 "Department." The Department of Community and Economic
- 15 Development of the Commonwealth or any successor agency.
- 16 Section 902. Register for taxes under this act.
- 17 (a) General rule.--It shall be the duty of the department to
- 18 have available an official continuing register supplemented
- 19 annually of all sales and use, personal income and municipal
- 20 service taxes levied under this act.
- 21 (b) Contents of register.--The register and its supplements
- 22 shall list:
- 23 (1) The counties, municipalities or school districts
- levying personal income tax, municipal service tax or sales
- and use tax.
- 26 (2) The rate of tax as stated in the ordinance levying
- the tax.
- 28 (3) The rate on taxpayers.
- 29 (4) The name and address of the tax officer responsible
- 30 for administering the collection of the tax and from whom

- 1 information, forms for reporting and copies of rules and
- 2 regulations are available.
- 3 Section 903. Information for register.
- 4 Information for the register shall be furnished by the chief
- 5 clerk or secretary of each county, municipality or school
- 6 district to the department in such manner and on such forms as
- 7 the department may prescribe. The information must be received
- 8 by the department by certified mail no later than May 31 of each
- 9 year to show new tax enactments, repeals and changes. Failure to
- 10 comply with this date for filing may result in the omission of
- 11 the tax levy from the register for that year. Failure of the
- 12 department to receive information of taxes continued without
- 13 change may be construed by the department to mean that the
- 14 information contained in the previous register remains in force.
- 15 Section 904. Availability and effective period of register.
- 16 The department shall have the register, with such annual
- 17 supplements as may be required by new tax enactments, repeals or
- 18 changes, available upon request no later than July 1 of each
- 19 year. The effective period for each register shall be from July
- 20 1 of the year in which it is issued to June 30 of the following
- 21 year.
- 22 Section 905. Effect of nonfiling.
- 23 Employers shall not be required by any ordinance to withhold
- 24 from the compensation of their employees any personal income tax
- 25 or municipal service tax imposed under the provisions of this
- 26 act which is not listed in the register or to make reports of
- 27 compensation in connection with taxes not so listed. If the
- 28 register is not available by July 1, the register of the
- 29 previous year shall continue temporarily in effect for an
- 30 additional period of not more than one year.

- 1 Section 906. Effect of chapter on liability of taxpayer.
- The provisions of this chapter shall not affect the liability 2
- of any taxpayer for taxes lawfully imposed under this act. 3
- 4 CHAPTER 21
- 5 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
- 6 Section 2101. Effective date.
- 7 This act shall take effect January 1, 1999.