

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 249 Session of  
2003

INTRODUCED BY SOLOBAY, BALDWIN, BELARDI, BELFANTI, BUNT,  
CAPPELLI, CAWLEY, CORRIGAN, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, DERMODY,  
DeWEESE, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HUTCHINSON,  
KOTIK, LAUGHLIN, PRESTON, SHANER, STABACK, TANGRETTI, THOMAS,  
TIGUE, TRAVAGLIO, WALKO, WANSACZ, WASHINGTON, WOJNAROSKI,  
YOUNGBLOOD AND YUDICHAK, FEBRUARY 11, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 11, 2003

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), entitled  
2 "An act concerning townships of the first class; amending,  
3 revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating  
4 thereto," further providing for tax levies.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Clauses two and seven of section 1709(a) of the  
8 act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The First  
9 Class Township Code, reenacted and amended May 27, 1949  
10 (P.L.1955, No.569) and amended December 17, 1990 (P.L.744,  
11 No.186), are amended to read:

12 Section 1709. Tax Levies.--(a) The board of township  
13 commissioners may levy taxes upon all property and upon all  
14 occupations within the township made taxable for township  
15 purposes, as ascertained by the valuation for county purposes  
16 made by the assessors of the several counties of this  
17 Commonwealth for the year for which the township taxes are

1 levied, for the purposes and at the rate hereinafter specified:  
2 Provided, however, That such valuation shall be subject to  
3 correction by the county commissioners of the several counties,  
4 and to appeal by the taxable persons in accordance with existing  
5 laws.

6 \* \* \*

7 Two. (i) An annual tax not exceeding three mills for the  
8 purpose of building and maintaining suitable places for the  
9 housing of fire apparatus and for the purpose of purchasing,  
10 maintaining and operating fire apparatus and for the purposes of  
11 making of appropriations to fire companies within or without the  
12 township and of contracting with adjacent municipalities or  
13 volunteer fire companies therein for fire protection.

14 (ii) The township may appropriate up to one-half, but not to  
15 exceed one mill, of the revenue generated from a tax under this  
16 clause for the purpose of paying salaries, benefits or other  
17 compensation of fire suppression employees of the township or a  
18 fire company serving the township.

19 (iii) If an annual tax for the purposes specified in this  
20 clause is proposed to be set at a level higher than three mills  
21 the question shall be submitted to the voters of the township,  
22 and the county board of elections shall frame the question in  
23 accordance with the election laws of the Commonwealth for  
24 submission to the voters of the township.

25 \* \* \*

26 Seven. (i) An annual tax not exceeding one-half mill for  
27 the purpose of supporting ambulance [and], rescue [squads] and  
28 other emergency services serving the township, except as  
29 provided in subsection (c).

30 (ii) The township may appropriate up to one-half of the

1 revenue generated from a tax under this clause for the purpose  
2 of paying salaries, benefits or other compensation of employes  
3 of an ambulance, rescue or other emergency service serving the  
4 township.

5 \* \* \*

6 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.