

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 163 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY SOLOBAY, BELFANTI, CALTAGIRONE, CARROLL, GEIST, GRUCELA, HARKINS, MAHONEY, MCILVAINE SMITH, SIPTROTH, STURLA AND VULAKOVICH, JANUARY 30, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, JANUARY 30, 2009

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 23, 1931 (P.L.932, No.317), entitled
2 "An act relating to cities of the third class; and amending,
3 revising, and consolidating the law relating thereto,"
4 further providing for tax levies.

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

7 Section 1. Section 2531 of the act of June 23, 1931 (P.L.
8 932, No.317), known as The Third Class City Code, reenacted and
9 amended June 28, 1951 (P.L.662, No.164), is amended by adding
10 clauses to read:

11 Section 2531. Tax Levies.--Council may, by ordinance, levy
12 and provide for the collection of the following taxes:

13 * * *

14 6. (i) A fire tax for the purchase of fire equipment for
15 the use of the city or for assisting any fire company in the
16 city in the purchase, renewal or repair of any of its fire
17 equipment, for the purposes of making appropriations to fire
18 companies both within and without the city and of contracting

1 with adjacent municipalities or volunteer fire companies therein
2 for fire protection, for the training of fire personnel and
3 payments to fire training schools and centers or for the
4 purchase of land upon which to erect a fire house, or for the
5 erection and maintenance of a fire house or fire training school
6 and center or fire houses, not exceeding three mills, except as
7 provided in subclause (iii).

8 (ii) The city may appropriate up to one-half of the revenue
9 generated from a tax under this clause, but not exceeding an
10 amount equal to one mill of the tax, for the purpose of paying
11 salaries, benefits or other compensation of fire suppression
12 employees of the city or a fire company serving the city.

13 (iii) If an annual tax for the purposes specified in this
14 clause is proposed to be set at a level higher than three mills,
15 the question shall be submitted to the voters of the city, and
16 the county board of elections shall frame the question in
17 accordance with the election laws of this Commonwealth for
18 submission to the voters of the city.

19 7. (i) A tax for the purpose of supporting ambulance,
20 rescue and other emergency services serving the city, not to
21 exceed one-half mill, except as provided in subclause (ii). The
22 city may appropriate up to one-half of the revenue generated
23 from a tax under this clause for the purpose of paying salaries,
24 benefits or other compensation of employees of the ambulance,
25 rescue or other emergency services.

26 (ii) The tax for supporting ambulance, rescue and other
27 emergency services serving the city shall not exceed the rate
28 specified in subclause (i) except when the question is submitted
29 to the voters of the city in the form of a referendum which
30 shall appear on the ballot in accordance with the election laws

1 of this Commonwealth, in which case the rate shall not exceed
2 two mills. The county board of elections shall frame the
3 question to be submitted to the voters of the city in accordance
4 with the election laws of this Commonwealth.

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