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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 812 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY EMRICK, FREEMAN, COHEN, JAMES, HELM, FABRIZIO, HARHART, STAATS, TOPPER, MACKENZIE, LAWRENCE, B. MILLER, HEFFLEY, DIAMOND, HICKERNELL, O'NEILL, TOOHIL, GROVE, TOEPEL, MENTZER, HAHN, GABLER, RADER, D. PARKER, MURT, JOZWIAK, R. BROWN, PEIFER, DUSH, GILLEN, KORTZ, SACCONE, EVANKOVICH, SAMUELSON, KAUFFMAN AND SANTARSIERO, MARCH 17, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MARCH 17, 2015

A SUPPLEMENT

To the act of June 25, 1931 (P.L.1352, No.332), entitled "An act providing for joint action by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey in the administration, operation, and maintenance of bridges over the Delaware River, and for the construction of additional bridge facilities across said river; authorizing the Governor, for these purposes, to enter into an agreement with the State of New Jersey; creating a Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission and specifying the powers and duties thereof, including the power to finance the construction of additional bridges by the issuance of revenue bonds to be redeemed from revenues derived from tolls collected at such bridges; transferring to said commission all powers now exercised by existing commission created to acquire toll bridges over the Delaware River; and making an appropriation," providing the Governor of each state with power to ratify or veto certain actions taken by commissioners.

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

Section 1. Action by Governor to ratify or veto commissioner action.

(a) Delivery of minutes to Governor.--The minutes of every meeting of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission

shall, as soon as possible after the meeting, be delivered by, and under the certification of the secretary of the commission, to the Governor.

(b) Ratification or veto.--No action taken by a Pennsylvania commissioner at the meeting shall have force or effect for a period of 10 days, except Saturdays, Sundays and Commonwealth public holidays, after the minutes have been delivered to the Governor under this subsection, unless the Governor approves the minutes, or any part of the minutes, in writing, by reciting the action approved, within the 10 day period. This veto power shall not be construed to affect the covenants contained in the bonds of the commission.

(c) Governor to return minutes.--

(1) The Governor shall return the minutes to the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission, not later than the 10 day period prescribed in subsection (b), either with or without a veto of any action recited in the minutes to have been taken by a commissioner appointed from Pennsylvania.

(2) If the Governor does not return the minutes within the 10 day period, the action taken by the Pennsylvania commissioners shall have the force and effect as recited in the minutes, according to the wording of the minutes. If the Governor, within the 10 day period prescribed in subsection (b), returns the minutes of the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission with a veto against the action of that commissioner from Pennsylvania, the action of that commissioner shall be null and void and of no effect.

(d) Public information.--The board shall designate an individual who shall be responsible for responding to requests

from the public and the news media for information concerning the scheduling, attendance and minutes of board meetings.

Section 2. The Governor shall not enter into a supplemental compact or agreement on behalf of the Commonwealth until passage by the State of New Jersey of a substantially similar act, embodying a supplemental compact or agreement between the two states. The Governor shall publish his execution of the supplemental compact or agreement as a notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.