

## AN ACT

1 Requiring financially struggling political subdivisions to adopt  
2 lean government practices; establishing the Lean Government  
3 Practices Program; and conferring powers and imposing duties  
4 on the Office of Innovation.

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

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Better  
9 Government for Taxpayers Act.

10 Section 2. Legislative findings.

11 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

12 (1) Lean government practices have helped governments at  
13 the Federal, state and local levels produce cost savings.

14 (2) Since 2011, the Commonwealth has saved \$690 million  
15 by adopting lean government practices.

16 (3) These cost savings stem from eliminating waste, in  
17 the form of unneeded bureaucratic processes and paperwork, in  
18 government programs designed to provide constituent services.

1 (4) By eliminating waste, government can provide its  
2 current services at a faster pace and at a lower cost.

3 (5) The adoption of lean government practices will  
4 assist financially struggling political subdivisions.

5 (6) Through the provision of efficient, more effective  
6 government, lean government practices provide the people with  
7 a better government that works for them.

8 Section 3. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Financially struggling political subdivision." Any of the  
13 following:

14 (1) A municipality which has run large structural  
15 deficits and is subject to the provisions of the act of July  
16 10, 1987 (P.L.246, No.47), known as the Municipalities  
17 Financial Recovery Act.

18 (2) A school district under financial recovery status  
19 under Article VI-A of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30,  
20 No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949.

21 "Lean government practices." The application of programs  
22 designed to improve constituent service through the elimination  
23 of waste in bureaucracy by removing unnecessary steps and  
24 processes to improve delivery of service to constituents in a  
25 manner that is faster, effective and efficient at the lowest  
26 cost. The term includes lean six sigma and kaizen.

27 "Office of Innovation." The Governor's Office of Innovation.

28 "Program." The Lean Government Practices Program established  
29 under this act.

30 Section 4. Lean Government Practices Program.

1 (a) Establishment.--The Lean Government Practices Program is  
2 established within the Office of Innovation to provide training  
3 in lean government practices to political subdivisions in order  
4 to improve their constituent services.

5 (b) Participation.--All financially struggling political  
6 subdivisions shall participate in the program. A political  
7 subdivision that is not a financially struggling political  
8 subdivision may participate in the program.

9 (c) Administration.--The Office of Administration shall  
10 administer the program and may promulgate regulations to assist  
11 in the administration of the program.

12 Section 5. Effective date.

13 This act shall take effect in 60 days.