

INCREASE COMMERCE ON THE DELAWARE RIVER
Act of Jun. 13, 1947, P.L. 598, No. 257
AN ACT

Cl. 36

Authorizing and directing the Delaware River Joint Commission to undertake immediately an aggressive campaign to promote increased commerce on the Delaware River, both freight and passenger, as authorized by the compact with the State of New Jersey, under which said commission operates, and to undertake the formulation of a specific action program for the promotion of the navigable section of the Delaware River and bay extending from Trenton, New Jersey, and Morrisville, Pennsylvania, to the Atlantic Ocean, as a highway of commerce; the investigation of the necessity for additional means of communication between the Ports of Philadelphia and Camden and the sea, and to conduct an investigation for the purpose of formulating a specific plan and report relative to the need for, and advisability of, constructing additional tunnels or bridges across that section of the Delaware River extending from Trenton, New Jersey, and Morrisville, Pennsylvania, to the Delaware Bay, and making an appropriation.

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

Section 1. The Delaware River Joint Commission created under the authority of the act, approved the twelfth day of June, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one (Pamphlet Laws 575), entitled "An act providing for joint action by Pennsylvania and New Jersey in the development of the ports on the lower Delaware River, and the improvement of the facilities for transportation across the river; authorizing the Governor, for these purposes, to enter into an agreement with New Jersey; creating The Delaware River Joint Commission and specifying the powers and duties thereof, including the power to finance projects by the issuance of revenue bonds; transferring to the new commission all the powers of the Delaware River Bridge Joint Commission; and making an appropriation," and a similar act of the State of New Jersey, is hereby directed to exercise its function in effectuating the purpose of Article I, paragraph (g) of the compact authorized by the aforesaid act, which reads as follows: "(g) The promotion of increased commerce on the Delaware River, both freight and passenger, and, for this purpose, the publication of such literature and adoption of such means as may be deemed appropriate," and in addition thereto to formulate a specific action program for the following purposes:

(a) The promotion of the navigable section of the Delaware River and Bay extending from Trenton, New Jersey, and Morrisville, Pennsylvania to the Atlantic Ocean as a highway of commerce;

(b) The making of recommendations to the proper authorities for the improvement of terminal, lighterage, wharfage, warehouse

and other facilities, necessary for the promotion of commerce on the Delaware River;

(c) The making of a report on any other factors which may be of mutual benefit to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the State of New Jersey insofar as concerns the promotion of the development of ports along the Delaware River, and the use by commercial vessels of their facilities;

(d) The investigation of the necessity for additional means of communication between the Ports of Philadelphia, and Camden, and the sea, and making of such studies, surveys and estimates, as may be necessary to determine the feasibility and cost of any such additional means of communication;

(e) The conducting of an investigation for the purpose of formulating a specific plan and report relative to the need for and advisability of constructing additional tunnels or bridges across that section of the Delaware River extending from Trenton, New Jersey and Morrisville, Pennsylvania to the Delaware Bay;

(f) The exercising of any or all other lawful functions delegated to the Commission by the compact under which it operates pertaining to the development of port and transportation facilities.

Section 2. The said Delaware River Joint Commission shall proceed without delay to study these problems in their entirety in cooperation with the Interstate Commission on the Delaware River Basin, also an agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the State of New Jersey, and of the States of New York and Delaware and shall submit a comprehensive report thereon to the Governor at the earliest practicable date, and in no case later than the first day of February, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine, as well as such interim reports, either upon individual items of the program or the program as a whole, as may be advisable and appropriate.

Section 3. For the purpose of carrying out the surveys provided for in this act, the sum of sixty-five thousand dollars (\$65,000), is hereby appropriated to the Delaware River Joint Commission, which sum only shall become available and be used in the event of the unavailability of other funds of the Commission, and provided, the State of New Jersey has made a like appropriation to the Commission for the same purpose.

Section 4. It is the legislative intent of this act, that authorized programs shall be initiated at the earliest practicable time, and prosecuted with the utmost dispatch.

Section 5. The provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment.