
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2541

Session of
1994

INTRODUCED BY L. I. COHEN, DENT, FARGO, CONTI, SEMMEL, HERSHEY,
FICHTER, DEMPSEY, E. Z. TAYLOR, JADLOWIEC, STERN, STABACK,
STEELMAN, EGOLF, NAILOR, CURRY, PITTS, BARLEY, TULLI,
D. W. SNYDER, STEIL, LAUB, GERLACH, FAJT, PETTIT, HANNA AND
ADOLPH, FEBRUARY 8, 1994

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 8, 1994

AN ACT

1 Exempting political subdivisions from compliance with laws that
2 require political subdivisions to spend funds or that limit
3 the ability of political subdivisions to raise revenue.

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

6 Section 1. Political subdivisions exempt from certain laws.

7 (a) General rule.--No political subdivision shall be bound
8 by any statute requiring such political subdivision to spend
9 funds, or to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds,
10 unless:

11 (1) funds have been appropriated that have been
12 estimated by an independent legislative agency at the time of
13 the enactment of the statute requiring the expenditure to be
14 sufficient to fund such expenditure;

15 (2) the General Assembly authorizes or has authorized
16 the political subdivision to enact a funding source not
17 available to that political subdivision on the effective date

1 of the statute that can be used to generate the amount of
2 funds estimated to be sufficient to fund such expenditure;

3 (3) each house of the General Assembly passes, by a vote
4 of two-thirds of all members, a resolution explicitly
5 exempting the Commonwealth from funding a specific statute or
6 providing a funding source for that specific statute;

7 (4) the expenditure is required to comply with a statute
8 that applies to all persons similarly situated, including
9 State and local governments; or

10 (5) the statute is either required to comply with a
11 Federal requirement, or required for eligibility for a
12 Federal entitlement, which Federal requirement specifically
13 contemplates actions by political subdivisions for
14 compliance.

15 Section 2. Statutes relating to revenue raising.

16 Except by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to
17 each house, the General Assembly may not enact, amend or repeal
18 any law if the anticipated effect of doing so would be to reduce
19 the authority that any political subdivision has to raise
20 revenues, in the aggregate, as such authority exists on the
21 effective date of this section.

22 Section 3. Exempt statutes.

23 Statutes exempt from the requirements of this act include
24 statutes that amend funding formulas existing on the effective
25 date of this act, statutes adopted to require funding of pension
26 benefits existing on the effective date of this act, statutes
27 relating to the enforcement of criminal laws but not the
28 execution of judicial sentences, and election laws, general
29 appropriation acts and special appropriation acts.

30 Section 4. Effective date.

1 This act shall take effect immediately.