

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1446 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, HUGHES, STACK, COSTA AND FONTANA,
MARCH 16, 2012

RE-COMMITTED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, MARCH 16,
2012

AN ACT

1 Transferring funds from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund to the Ben
2 Franklin Technology Development Authority Fund for
3 investments in Pennsylvania-related companies that promote
4 the development of next-generation infrastructure
5 technologies or technology related investments to support
6 development of life science, information technology or green
7 energy industries.

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

10 Section 1. Short title.

11 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Technology
12 Infrastructure Investment Act.

13 Section 2. Definitions.

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

17 "Authority." The Ben Franklin Technology Development
18 Authority.

19 "Ben Franklin Technology Partners." As defined in section 2
20 of the act of June 22, 2001 (P.L.569, No.38), known as The Ben

Franklin Technology Development Authority Act.

"Next-generation infrastructure technology." Technologies applicable to directly improving the characteristics, longevity and performance of infrastructure and those that help monitor, detect, inspect and evaluate the state of infrastructure. The term shall include technologies relating to:

(1) Traffic monitoring and flow control technologies.

(2) Sensors, including load, stress, acceleration, displacement and vibration detection and monitoring sensors, crack detection and monitoring sensors and seismic sensors.

(3) Wastewater and hazardous waste treatment technologies, including nanotechnologies.

(4) Robotics.

(5) Three dimensional imaging, laser scanning, ultrasonic testing, infrared detection and sensor systems.

(6) Tracking technologies.

(7) Geospatial information technologies.

(8) Power grid monitoring software and hardware.

(9) Security applications.

(10) Other projects approved by the Ben Franklin Technology Partners.

"Pennsylvania-related company." An entity with operations located in this Commonwealth or an entity willing to locate significant business operations in this Commonwealth.

Section 3. Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority Fund.

(a) Transfer.--For fiscal years 2012-2013, 2013-2014 and 2014-2015, the sum of \$8,000,000 per year shall be transferred from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund to the Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority Fund for use by the authority under subsection (b). Funds transferred under this subsection shall be

distributed equally among the Ben Franklin Technology Partners.

(b) Use.--Funds transferred under subsection (a) shall be transferred to the Ben Franklin Technology Partners for investments in Pennsylvania-related companies that promote the development of next-generation infrastructure technologies or technology-related investments to support development of life science, information technology or green energy industries.

(c) Guidelines.--Funds allocated to businesses under subsection (b) shall be used in accordance with guidelines developed by the Board of Directors of the Ben Franklin Technology Development Authority Board. The guidelines shall seek to ensure that minority-owned, women-owned and other disadvantaged businesses have the opportunity to substantially participate in funding activities undertaken pursuant to this section. The guidelines shall be posted on the authority's official Internet website.

(d) Application.--An applicant for funds under this section shall submit an application including any supporting information as required by the authority.

(e) Administrative costs.--No more than 1% of funds transferred under subsection (a) shall be used for administrative costs.

Section 4. Annual report.

By April 1 of each year, the authority shall provide an annual report to the chairman and minority chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate and the chairman and minority chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives. The report shall be posted and maintained on its official Internet website. The report shall include a list of all funds allocated under section 3(b), the recipients of the

1 funds, the technology to be developed and a description of how
2 the investments of the partners through this program will
3 achieve the goals of this act.

4 Section 10. Effective date.

5 This act shall take effect in 60 days.