
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2577

Session of
1982

INTRODUCED BY PITTS, RYAN, HAYES, IRVIS, ZWIKL, J. L. WRIGHT AND
WAMBACH, JUNE 8, 1982

As AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, NOVEMBER 23, 1982

AN ACT

1 Providing for the historic preservation of the State Capitol
2 Building, establishing a Capitol Preservation Committee and
3 establishing the Capitol Restoration Trust Fund.

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

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "State
8 Capitol Preservation Act."

9 Section 2. Legislative findings; declaration of policy.

10 It is hereby determined and declared as a matter of
11 legislative finding:

12 (1) The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has a rich heritage
13 of historical buildings, structures, documents, artifacts and
14 other objects and resources which bear witness to its growth
15 as one of the great states of this nation.

16 (2) Efforts have been made toward the restoration and
17 preservation of buildings, structures, documents, artifacts

1 and objects evidencing the history of this eminent
2 Commonwealth and of the General Assembly, and these efforts
3 should be continued and intensified.

4 (3) Particular attention should be given to the
5 preservation of the architectural and historical integrity of
6 the State Capitol Building and to the restoration and
7 preservation of artifacts, documents and other historical
8 objects and resources located within that building.

9 (4) The most effective way to promote and foster the
10 historic preservation of the State Capitol Building is by the
11 establishment of a committee to supervise and coordinate this
12 work.

13 Section 3. Definitions.

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

17 "Committee." The Capitol Preservation Committee.

18 "Fund." The Capitol Restoration Trust Fund.

19 Section 4. Capitol Preservation Committee.

20 (a) Establishment.--There is hereby established the Capitol
21 Preservation Committee to supervise and coordinate the historic
22 preservation of the State Capitol Building and the preservation
23 and restoration of historical documents, artifacts and other
24 objects and resources located in or associated with the State
25 Capitol Building.

26 (b) Membership.--The commission shall be composed of the
27 following:

28 (1) Four members of the Senate to be appointed by the
29 President pro tempore of the Senate, two from the majority
30 and two from the minority party.

1 (2) Four members of the House of Representatives to be
2 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two
3 from the majority and two from the minority party.

4 (3) One member, appointed by the Chief Justice, who is
5 not a member of the judiciary.

6 (4) The Secretary of the Department of General Services
7 or his designee.

8 (5) The Executive Director of the Pennsylvania
9 Historical and Museum Commission or his designee.

10 (6) The Secretary of the State Art Commission.

11 ~~(7) One member, appointed by the Governor who shall be~~ <—
12 ~~an architect with experience in restoration of monumental~~
13 ~~buildings.~~

14 ~~(8) One member, appointed by the President pro tempore~~
15 ~~of the Senate who shall be an individual with a background in~~
16 ~~historical restoration.~~

17 ~~(9) One member, appointed by the Speaker of the House of~~
18 ~~Representatives who shall be an individual with a background~~
19 ~~in fine arts conservation.~~

20 (7) THREE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WHICH <—
21 MEMBERS SHALL INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS WITH EXPERIENCE IN
22 RESTORATION OF MONUMENTAL BUILDINGS, A BACKGROUND IN
23 HISTORICAL RESTORATION OR FINE ARTS CONSERVATION.

24 No member appointed under paragraph (3), (7), (8) or (9) shall
25 be a member of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of
26 Commonwealth government at the time of his appointment.

27 (c) Terms.--

28 (1) Members appointed pursuant to subsection (b)(1) and
29 (2) shall be appointed at the commencement of a regular
30 session of the General Assembly in each odd-numbered year.

1 These appointments shall take effect 31 days following the
2 convening of the session and the terms of these members shall
3 run until 30 days after the convening of the next regular
4 session of the General Assembly.

5 (2) The terms of members enumerated in subsection
6 (b)(4), (5) and (6) shall be coincident with their respective
7 offices.

8 (3) The terms of members appointed pursuant to
9 subsection (b)(3), (7), (8) and (9) shall be coincident with
10 that of the appointing Governor, President pro tempore of the
11 Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Chief
12 Justice.

13 (d) Vacancies.--Vacancies in the membership of the committee
14 shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the
15 same manner as the original appointment.

16 (e) Organization and procedure.--

17 (1) The committee shall meet initially within 60 days
18 after enactment of this act and shall elect by a majority of
19 all its members a chairman and vice-chairman from among its
20 members, each to serve for a term of two years. Thereafter,
21 the committee shall meet not less than twice each year.

22 (2) A majority of all the members of the committee shall
23 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

24 (3) The committee may adopt rules for its government,
25 organization and procedures not inconsistent with the
26 provisions of this act.

27 (f) Expenses.--Committee members shall receive no
28 compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for all
29 necessary travel and other reasonable expenses incurred in
30 connection with the performance of their duties as members from

1 the Capitol Restoration Trust Fund.

2 Section 5. Duties of the committee.

3 In addition to other powers conferred by this act, the
4 committee shall have the power:

5 (1) To develop a comprehensive plan and program for the
6 historic preservation and restoration of the State Capitol
7 Building.

8 (2) To ~~coordinate and supervise~~ MONITOR the making of <—
9 all major repairs, alterations and improvements in and about
10 the State Capitol Building, including the furnishing and
11 refurnishing of the same, where such repairs, alterations or
12 improvements may alter or otherwise affect the architectural
13 and historical integrity of the building.

14 (3) To ~~coordinate~~ MONITOR the maintenance, restoration, <—
15 preservation and rehabilitation of historical documents,
16 artifacts and other historical objects or resources located
17 within and around, or associated with, the State Capitol
18 Building.

19 (4) To acquire on behalf of the Commonwealth artifacts,
20 documents and other historical objects or resources which
21 contribute to the historical significance of the State
22 Capitol Building.

23 (5) To receive for and on behalf of the Commonwealth,
24 gifts or bequests of artifacts, documents and other
25 historical objects or resources which contribute to the
26 historical significance of the State Capitol Building.

27 (6) To assist in the preservation of other buildings and
28 structures located within the Capitol Complex.

29 (7) To accept grants and subsidies from and enter into
30 agreements or other transactions with any Federal agency or

1 agency of the Commonwealth or other entity.

2 (8) To enter into contracts and to execute all
3 instruments necessary or convenient for carrying on its
4 operations.

5 (9) To issue appropriate regulations for the
6 implementation of this act.

7 (10) To do all other things necessary or convenient to
8 carry out the powers granted to it by this act.

9 Section 6. Capitol Restoration Trust Fund.

10 (a) Establishment and administration.--There is hereby
11 established a separate fund in the State Treasury to be known as
12 the Capitol Restoration Trust Fund. This fund shall be
13 administered by the committee and all moneys in the fund are
14 hereby appropriated to the committee on a continuing basis.

15 (b) Purpose.--The moneys in the fund shall be used:

16 (1) for the maintenance, restoration, preservation and
17 rehabilitation of artifacts, documents and other historical
18 objects or resources located within and around or associated
19 with the State Capitol Building or acquired by the committee;

20 (2) for the acquisition of artifacts, documents and
21 other historical objects or resources, including but not
22 limited to, statuary, art or any element which contribute to
23 the historical significance of the State Capitol Building;
24 and

25 (3) for the payment of the necessary travel and other
26 reasonable expenses incurred by members of the committee:
27 Provided, however, That no more than 0.50% of the trust fund
28 be set aside for this purpose with the remaining balance at
29 the end of each calendar year returned to the corpus of the
30 trust fund.

1 (c) Contributions, solicitation of funds.--

2 (1) The committee is hereby authorized:

3 (i) to accept on behalf of the Commonwealth gifts,
4 donations, legacies and usages of money from individuals,
5 organizations, public or private corporations and other
6 similar entities; and

7 (ii) to solicit and raise moneys from public and
8 private sources through the sale of commemorative medals
9 and other items of a similar nature which promote the
10 historic preservation and restoration of the State
11 Capitol Building.

12 (2) All moneys received or raised under this section
13 shall be paid into the State Treasury and credited to the
14 Capitol Restoration Trust Fund.

15 Section 7. Repeal.

16 All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are repealed
17 to the extent of such inconsistency.

18 Section 8. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect immediately. Initial appointments
20 to the committee shall be made within ~~30~~ 60 days following the
21 date of final enactment.

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