

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL

No. 559

Session of  
1983

INTRODUCED BY LETTERMAN, SIRIANNI, HAYES, E. Z. TAYLOR, FARGO,  
MERRY, LIVENGOD, FEE, DeVERTER, SALOOM, ALDERETTE, COY,  
LESCOVITZ, NOYE, MACKOWSKI, GEIST, PHILLIPS, HERMAN AND  
GRIECO, MARCH 22, 1983

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, JULY 8, 1983

## AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 17, 1929 (P.L.1798, No.591), entitled  
2 "An act providing a fixed charge, payable by the  
3 Commonwealth, on lands acquired by the State and the Federal  
4 Government for forest reserves, or for the purpose of  
5 preserving and perpetuating a portion of the original forests  
6 of Pennsylvania, and preserving and maintaining the same as  
7 public places and parks; and the distribution of the same for  
8 county, school, township, and road purposes in the counties,  
9 school districts, and townships where such forests are  
10 located; and making an appropriation," increasing the amount  
11 paid by the Commonwealth.

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

14 Section 1. Section 1 of the act of May 17, 1929 (P.L.1798,  
15 No.591), referred to as the Forest Reserves Municipal Financial  
16 Relief Law, amended April 6, 1980 (P.L.92, No.32), is amended to  
17 read:

18 Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That (a) from and after the  
19 passage of this act, all lands heretofore or hereafter acquired  
20 by the Commonwealth, or by the Government of the United States,  
21 for forest reserves or for the purpose of preserving and

1 perpetuating any portion of the original forests of Pennsylvania  
2 and preserving and maintaining the same as public places and  
3 parks, and which, by existing laws, are now exempt from  
4 taxation, and all lands and property heretofore or hereafter  
5 acquired for the purpose of conservation of water, or to prevent  
6 flood conditions, upon which a tax is imposed by existing laws  
7 payable by the Commonwealth, shall hereafter be subject to an  
8 annual charge of [thirteen cents] twenty cents per acre, for the  
9 benefit of the county in which said lands are located, [thirteen  
10 cents] twenty cents per acre for the benefit of the schools in  
11 the respective school districts in which such lands are located,  
12 and [thirteen cents] twenty cents per acre for the benefit of  
13 the township where such lands are located, which charge shall be  
14 payable by the Commonwealth. (b) Except as hereinafter provided,  
15 the annual charge payable by the Commonwealth on land acquired  
16 by the Government of the United States for forest reserves is to  
17 continue only until the receipts of money by treasurers and  
18 township supervisors of the said counties and school districts  
19 and townships in which national forest reserves are located,  
20 provided for in act of April twenty-seventh, one thousand nine  
21 hundred twenty-five, Pamphlet Laws, three hundred twenty-four,  
22 shall equal or exceed the amount paid by the Commonwealth in  
23 lieu of taxes. This subsection shall not apply to the annual  
24 charge per acre for the benefit of the county in which the land  
25 acquired by the Government of the United States for forest  
26 reserves is located for the years one thousand nine hundred  
27 fifty-three, one thousand nine hundred fifty-four, one thousand  
28 nine hundred fifty-five, one thousand nine hundred fifty-six,  
29 and this subsection shall not apply to two and one-half cents of  
30 the annual charge per acre for the benefit of the county in

1   which the land acquired by the Government of the United States  
2   for forest reserves is located for any year thereafter. The  
3   charges for the benefit of the county for these years shall be  
4   paid by the Commonwealth. All charges payable by the  
5   Commonwealth under the provisions of this act shall be paid on  
6   or before the first day of September of each year.

7       Section 2.   This act shall take effect ~~in 60 days~~ JULY 1,  
8   1984.

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