

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 2097 Session of
1986

INTRODUCED BY KUKOVICH, MANDERINO, IRVIS, PIEVSKY, ITKIN,
DOMBROWSKI, D. R. WRIGHT, SEVENTY, PETRONE, GRUITZA, LLOYD,
CAWLEY, VEON, COWELL, STABACK, BELFANTI, CALTAGIRONE, TRELLO,
PETRARCA, VAN HORNE, COLE, DeLUCA, FREEMAN, GRUPPO, STEWART,
CAPPABIANCA, KASUNIC, TELEK, MRKONIC, WAMBACH, GEORGE,
LINTON, LUCYK, LESCOVITZ, McCALL, DUFFY, MICHLOVIC, WOZNIAK,
MORRIS, BATTISTO, COLAFELLA, PRESTON, STEIGHNER, GALLAGHER,
DAWIDA, HERMAN AND COY, FEBRUARY 5, 1986

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, FEBRUARY 5, 1986

AN ACT

1 Creating the Pennsylvania Economic and Infrastructure
2 Development Board; providing for the development and
3 implementation of an economic and infrastructure development
4 strategy for the Commonwealth; providing for the monitoring
5 of programs established by the implementation of such
6 strategy; providing for the powers and duties of the board;
7 and making an appropriation.

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 Pennsylvania
12 Economic and Infrastructure Development Board Act.

13 Section 2. Legislative purpose.

14 It is the finding of the General Assembly that the economy of
15 this Commonwealth is severely distressed. There are many causes
16 for the present situation. The decline of the national economy
17 is only one of the causes; and studies have shown that, even

1 with a prolonged national recovery, it is unlikely that
2 unemployment in the Commonwealth will rebound quickly. The
3 underlying problem is that the economy of this Commonwealth is
4 heavily dependent on industries that are not currently
5 competitive in world markets and must undergo severe
6 retrenchment if they are to become competitive or on industries
7 that are and will continue to be vulnerable to competition from
8 overseas. Further underlying the problems of Pennsylvania's
9 economy are mechanization, capital intensification and technical
10 changes in production methods by private commercial and
11 industrial companies which have created a significant class of
12 dislocated workers. This class of dislocated workers is a threat
13 to the long-term stability of the Commonwealth. It is the
14 further finding of the General Assembly that it is essential for
15 the Commonwealth to address the problems of the economy in a
16 unified manner. To accomplish this, the development and
17 implementation of an economic development strategy is needed to
18 promote the general welfare of the people of this Commonwealth.
19 Section 3. Definitions.

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

23 "Board." The Pennsylvania Economic and Infrastructure
24 Development Board established by this act.

25 Section 4. Pennsylvania Economic and Infrastructure Development
26 Board.

27 There is hereby created an independent agency to be known as
28 the Pennsylvania Economic and Infrastructure Development Board.
29 The board shall consist of 31 members and be composed of the
30 following: the Secretary of Commerce; the Secretary of Community

1 Affairs; the Secretary of Education; the Secretary of Labor and
2 Industry; the Chairperson of the Milrite Council; a
3 representative of the State Job Training Council of the Private
4 Industry Councils as designated by the Governor; a
5 representative of the Ben Franklin Partnership Board as
6 designated by the Secretary of Commerce; two members of the
7 Senate, one to be appointed by the Majority Leader and one to be
8 appointed by the Minority Leader; and two members of the House
9 of Representatives, one to be appointed by the Majority Leader
10 and one to be appointed by the Minority Leader. The remaining
11 members shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and
12 consent of the Senate. The members appointed by the Governor
13 shall have background in or knowledge of economic development,
14 public financing and public or private sector economic planning
15 and development and infrastructure development, and at least one
16 member shall be involved in each of the following: large
17 business management; small business; organized labor; basic
18 education; postsecondary education; manpower training; and a
19 regional economic development agency and a local economic
20 development agency. The members of the board initially appointed
21 by the Governor shall serve for terms of one to five years,
22 respectively, from the date of their appointment and until their
23 respective successors shall be duly appointed and qualified. The
24 term of each appointed member shall be designated by the
25 Governor at the time of the appointment, with four members
26 designated in each year category. The successors of such
27 initially appointed members shall each be appointed for a term
28 of five years and until their respective successors shall be
29 duly appointed and qualified, except that any person appointed
30 to fill a vacancy shall serve only for the unexpired term and

1 any appointed member of the board shall be eligible for
2 reappointment. The board shall select one of its members to be
3 chairman. The members of the board shall be entitled to no
4 compensation for their services as members but shall be entitled
5 to reimbursement for all necessary expenses incurred in
6 connection with the performance of their duties as members.

7 Section 5. Powers and duties of board.

8 The board shall have the power and its duty shall be:

9 (1) To develop, advocate and monitor an economic and
10 infrastructure development strategy for the Commonwealth. In
11 furtherance of such strategy, the board shall do the
12 following:

13 (i) Develop recommendations into specific proposals
14 to the Governor.

15 (ii) Develop recommendations into specific
16 legislative proposals to the General Assembly.

17 (iii) Give due consideration that land, labor and
18 capital incentives to businesses are offered in a
19 businesslike and coordinated manner.

20 (iv) Give due consideration that businesses
21 receiving aid through State programs hire those being
22 trained through the State's employment and training
23 programs.

24 (v) Give due consideration that localities
25 (particularly smaller communities in economically-
26 distressed areas) use the State's business assistance
27 programs and develop their own complementary programs.

28 (vi) Give due consideration that pensions fund
29 moneys are being invested for the maximum economic
30 development benefit of the State while protecting

1 retirees' future benefits.

2 (vii) Give due consideration that State development-
3 related agencies are coordinated to minimize overlap and
4 duplication of effort and ensure consistency of goals.

5 (viii) Monitor and test results in the State's
6 economic and infrastructure development strategy against
7 the goals stated in the strategy.

8 (2) To hire and establish salaries for an Economic and
9 Infrastructure Development Manager and other staff and
10 clerical assistance as may be necessary to perform its duties
11 under this act.

12 (3) To purchase such equipment as may be deemed
13 necessary to perform its duties under this act.

14 (4) To hold such public hearings as the board deems
15 necessary to fulfill its functions.

16 Section 6. Monitoring.

17 The board shall establish and implement procedures to monitor
18 economic and infrastructure development programs and to monitor
19 the status of maturing industries as well as other industries to
20 determine if such programs and industrial trends are following
21 the strategy established by the board. Those responsible for the
22 administration of any such program shall cooperate fully with
23 the board.

24 Section 7. Reports and reporting.

25 (a) Initial plan.--An initial plan shall be reported to the
26 Governor within six months of establishment of the board. Copies
27 of the initial plan shall be filed with the Majority and
28 Minority Leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

29 (b) Annual plan.--An annual plan shall be reported to the
30 Governor at the end of the calendar year. Copies of the annual

1 plan shall be filed with the Majority and Minority Leaders of
2 the Senate and the House of Representatives.

3 (c) Quarterly reports.--Quarterly reports pursuant to the
4 monitoring provisions of this act shall be filed with the
5 Governor, the Secretary of Commerce and the Majority and
6 Minority Leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

7 (d) Acceptance or rejection of plans.--Upon acceptance of
8 the initial plan and annual plans, the Governor shall have 30
9 days to accept, reject or modify such plan or plans.

10 Section 8. Appropriation.

11 The sum of \$500,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary,
12 is hereby appropriated to the Pennsylvania Economic and
13 Infrastructure Development Board from the Pennsylvania Economic
14 Revitalization Fund for the fiscal year 1985-1986, to carry out
15 the provisions of this act.

16 Section 9. Effective date.

17 This act shall take effect immediately.