
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1681 Session of
1993

INTRODUCED BY TANGRETTI, COLAIZZO, PESCI, BAKER, GORDNER,
VAN HORNE, ROONEY, SURRA, MIHALICH, J. TAYLOR, ULIANA, MELIO,
DALEY, CURRY, McCALL, COY, PETRARCA, KUKOVICH, FAIRCHILD,
LAUGHLIN, VEON, SEMMEL, SAURMAN, DRUCE, ROBERTS, TOMLINSON,
L. I. COHEN, TRELLO, MARKOSEK, PISTELLA, STETLER, HENNESSEY,
SATHER, GEIST, DeWEESE, TRICH AND JAMES, MAY 26, 1993

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGING AND YOUTH, MAY 26, 1993

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Keystone Card program; providing for powers and
2 duties of the Department of Aging and for the functioning of
3 the program; and making an appropriation.

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 Keystone Card
8 Act.

9 Section 2. Legislative intent.

10 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

11 (1) The Commonwealth has a duty and responsibility for
12 the well-being of its people.

13 (2) The Commonwealth has been and is in a period of
14 economic recession, making the purchase of necessary goods
15 and services difficult.

16 (3) Certain citizens, particularly senior citizens who

1 are on fixed incomes, have been especially hard hit by the
2 economic downturn.

3 (4) It is in the interest of the Commonwealth to assist,
4 when possible, its senior citizens by:

5 (i) enhancing their purchasing power through
6 benefits or discounts for goods and services provided by
7 participating Commonwealth businesses; and

8 (ii) forging partnerships among Commonwealth
9 businesses and senior citizens.

10 Section 3. Definitions.

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

14 "Card." The Keystone Card.

15 "Department." The Department of Aging of the Commonwealth.

16 "Program." The Keystone Card program.

17 Section 4. Keystone Card program.

18 (a) Establishment.--There is hereby established the Keystone
19 Card program to be administered by the Department of Aging.

20 (b) Eligibility.--Any citizen of this Commonwealth who is 60
21 years of age or older is eligible to participate in the program.

22 (c) Nontransferable.--Any card that the department issues
23 shall be held in perpetuity by the original cardholder and shall
24 not be transferable to any other person.

25 (d) Lost card.--A person who loses his card may obtain
26 another card from the department at the cost of replacement upon
27 providing the same information to the department as was required
28 for the issuance of the original card.

29 (e) Needs-testing.--Needs-testing to determine eligibility
30 is forbidden.

1 Section 5. Powers and duties of department.

2 The department shall:

3 (1) Encourage support and participation in the program
4 by all persons, including governmental organizations.

5 (2) Prevent the issuance of cards to persons not
6 qualified to have them.

7 (3) Require the card to contain the signature of the
8 cardholder and any other information the department
9 determines is necessary.

10 (4) Bear the cost of administering the program.

11 Section 6. Functioning of program.

12 The program shall function as follows:

13 (1) Cardholders shall be entitled to any benefits
14 granted to them by private persons or organizations, the laws
15 of the Commonwealth or ordinances or resolutions of political
16 subdivisions.

17 (2) A person or organization is not required to provide
18 benefits to any cardholder.

19 (3) All discounts or benefits offered by persons or
20 organizations to cardholders shall be based on the regularly
21 offered price for goods and services.

22 (4) Participation in the program is entirely voluntary.

23 (5) No person shall use a card except to obtain a
24 benefit for the holder of the card to which the holder is
25 entitled under the conditions of the offer.

26 (6) Any person or organization found in violation of
27 this act shall be terminated from the program and not
28 entitled to any further participation.

29 Section 7. Rules and regulations.

30 The department shall promulgate rules and regulations

1 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

2 Section 8. Appropriation.

3 The sum of \$1,000,000, or as much thereof as may be
4 necessary, is hereby appropriated to the Department of Aging for
5 the fiscal year July 1, 1993, to June 30, 1994, to carry out the
6 provisions of this act.

7 Section 9. Effective date.

8 This act shall take effect in 30 days.