

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2880 Session of  
2002

INTRODUCED BY ROBERTS, BELFANTI, DALEY, DeWEESE, FRANKEL,  
HARHAI, LAUGHLIN, MANN, MELIO, PISTELLA, SAINATO, SCHRODER,  
SOLOBAY, THOMAS, WASHINGTON AND G. WRIGHT, OCTOBER 2, 2002

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
OCTOBER 2, 2002

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of October 6, 1998 (P.L.705, No.92), entitled,  
2 as amended, "An act providing for the creation of keystone  
3 opportunity zones and keystone opportunity expansion zones to  
4 foster economic opportunities in this Commonwealth, to  
5 facilitate economic development, stimulate industrial,  
6 commercial and residential improvements and prevent physical  
7 and infrastructure deterioration of geographic areas within  
8 this Commonwealth; authorizing expenditures; providing tax  
9 exemptions, tax deductions, tax abatements and tax credits;  
10 creating additional obligations of the Commonwealth and local  
11 governmental units; and prescribing powers and duties of  
12 certain State and local departments, agencies and officials,"  
13 further providing for keystone opportunity zones and for  
14 review by the Department of Community and Economic  
15 Development.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
17 hereby enacts as follows:

18 Section 1. Section 301 of the act of October 6, 1998  
19 (P.L.705, No.92), known as the Keystone Opportunity Zone and  
20 Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone Act, is amended by adding a  
21 subsection to read:

22 Section 301. Keystone opportunity zones.

23 \* \* \*

1     (f) Authorization to alter boundaries of keystone  
2 opportunity zone.--

3         (1) A qualified political subdivision having an approved  
4 subzone within its jurisdiction may apply to the department  
5 to alter the geographic boundaries of the keystone  
6 opportunity zone within which the political subdivision is  
7 located. If more than one political subdivision would be  
8 affected by the boundary alteration, then the application  
9 must be made jointly by the affected political subdivisions.

10 The application shall contain:

11             (i) The information required under section 302(a).

12             (ii) Evidence that each property owner within the  
13 affected area approves of the boundary alteration.

14         (2) The department may approve the request for  
15 alteration of the keystone opportunity zone boundaries if:

16             (i) The request meets the criteria for authorization  
17 under section 304.

18             (ii) The total number of acres within the keystone  
19 opportunity zone as it is proposed to be altered does not  
20 differ from the total number of acres within that  
21 keystone opportunity zone as originally approved.

22         (3) The department shall provide written notice of its  
23 determination to the applicant or joint applicants.

24         (4) Upon approval of a request for alteration of  
25 keystone opportunity zone boundaries, the exemptions,  
26 deductions, abatements or credits shall be binding upon a  
27 political subdivision as provided in subsection (d).

28     Section 2. Section 303(b) of the act, amended December 20,  
29 2000 (P.L.841, No.119), is amended to read:

30     Section 303. Review.

1       \* \* \*

2       (b) Process.--The department shall authorize up to 12  
3 keystone opportunity zones from applications meeting the  
4 criteria in section 304 based upon need and likelihood of  
5 success. The department shall authorize up to 12 keystone  
6 opportunity expansion zones from applications meeting the  
7 criteria in section 304 based upon need and likelihood of  
8 success. Additionally, the department shall not alter the  
9 geographic boundaries of a subzone or expansion subzone or the  
10 duration of a subzone or expansion subzone described in an  
11 application, except as provided in section 301(f).

12       \* \* \*

13       Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.