

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL****No. 110** Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY VITALI, SCAVELLO, BENNINGTON, BISHOP, CALTAGIRONE, CARROLL, COHEN, CURRY, DePASQUALE, FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GALLOWAY, GEORGE, GERBER, GERGELY, GIBBONS, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARPER, HENNESSEY, JAMES, JOSEPHS, KING, KULA, LEACH, LENTZ, LEVDANSKY, MANDERINO, MANN, McCALL, McGEEHAN, MELIO, MENSCH, MICOZZIE, MUNDY, MURT, MUSTIO, M. O'BRIEN, PARKER, PETRONE, PRESTON, RAMALEY, READSHAW, ROEBUCK, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAMUELSON, SANTONI, SHAPIRO, SIPTROTH, McILVAINE SMITH, STABACK, STURLA, SURRA, TANGRETTI, R. TAYLOR, THOMAS, WALKO, WANSACZ, WATSON, WHEATLEY, YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK, KENNEY, M. SMITH, MOYER, QUINN, MILNE, STEIL, CIVERA, HORNAMAN, RAYMOND, J. TAYLOR, VEREB, BRENNAN, WAGNER AND PETRI, FEBRUARY 1, 2007

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AS RE-REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 23, 2007

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## AN ACT

1 Providing for a report on potential global warming impacts and  
2 economic opportunities for the Commonwealth, for duties of  
3 the Department of Environmental Protection, for an inventory  
4 of greenhouse gases, for creation of stakeholder process, for  
5 a voluntary registry of greenhouse gas emissions and for a  
6 climate change action plan.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Short title.

10 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Pennsylvania  
11 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act.

12 Section 2. Definitions.

13 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
14 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

1 context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Baseline." A level of greenhouse gas emissions against  
3 which future emissions are measured.

4 "Carbon sequestration." The long-term storage of carbon or  
5 carbon dioxide in forests, soils, oceans or underground in  
6 depleted oil and gas reservoirs, coal seams and saline  
7 aquifers.

8 "Cobenefits." The economic, social, environmental, public  
9 health and other benefits of global warming policies that are  
10 independent of any benefits for reducing or mitigating global  
11 warming.

12 "Department." The Department of Environmental Protection of  
13 the Commonwealth.

14 "Global warming." Any increase in the earth's temperature  
15 due, at least in part, to emissions of greenhouse gases  
16 associated with human activities, including, but not limited to,  
17 the burning of fossil fuels, biomass burning, cement  
18 manufacture, agriculture, deforestation and other land-use  
19 changes.

20 "Greenhouse gases" or "GHGs." Gases in the earth's  
21 atmosphere that absorb and reemit infrared radiation, including  
22 carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane, hydrofluorocarbons,  
23 perfluorocarbons and chlorofluorocarbons.

24 Section 3. Report on potential global warming impact in and  
25 economic opportunities for the Commonwealth.

26 (a) Report required.--The department shall prepare and  
27 publish a report on the potential impact of global warming and  
28 climate change in this Commonwealth. The report shall identify  
29 the following:

30 (1) Scientific predictions regarding changes in

1 temperature and precipitation patterns and amounts in this  
2 Commonwealth that could result from global warming.

3 (2) The potential impact of global warming on human  
4 health, the economy and the management of economic risk,  
5 forests, wildlife, fisheries, recreation, agriculture and  
6 tourism in this Commonwealth and any significant  
7 uncertainties about the impact of global warming.

8 (3) Economic opportunities for this Commonwealth created  
9 by the potential need for alternative sources of energy,  
10 climate-related technologies, services and strategies; carbon  
11 sequestration technologies; capture and utilization of  
12 fugitive greenhouse gas emissions from any source and other  
13 mitigation strategies.

14 (b) Cooperation.--In preparing the report, the department  
15 may consult with Federal and other state agencies, academic  
16 institutions and stakeholders.

17 (c) Deadline.--This report shall be completed, published and  
18 distributed to the General Assembly and made available to the  
19 public in printed form and on the Internet within six months of  
20 the effective date of this act and shall be revised every three  
21 years thereafter.

22 Section 4. Greenhouse gases inventory.

23 (a) Inventory required.--In consultation with stakeholders,  
24 the department shall annually create an inventory of GHGs  
25 emitted in this Commonwealth by all sources. This inventory  
26 shall establish GHG emission trends and the relative  
27 contribution of major sectors, including, but not limited to,  
28 the transportation, electricity generation, industrial,  
29 commercial, mineral and natural resources, agricultural and  
30 domestic sectors.

1 (b) Baseline.--The department shall establish a baseline of  
2 GHG emissions that it shall use to project future GHG emissions  
3 in this Commonwealth in the absence of government intervention.

4 (c) Coordination with action plan.--The inventory and  
5 baseline shall be presented to the Governor and stakeholders  
6 every three years as part of the GHG plan of action required  
7 under section 7.

8 Section 5. Creation of stakeholder process.

9 (a) Appointment.--Within 30 days of the effective date of  
10 this act, the Governor shall appoint stakeholders who shall  
11 advise the department about implementation of the provisions of  
12 this act. The stakeholders shall be appointed on account of  
13 their expertise regarding global warming and climate change  
14 issues. Stakeholders shall be chosen from scientific, business  
15 and industry, environmental, social, outdoor and sporting,  
16 faith-based and labor communities, along with other interested  
17 parties.

18 (b) Meetings.--Within 60 days of the effective date of this  
19 act, the department shall call the first meeting of the  
20 stakeholders and shall establish a schedule for regular meetings  
21 with stakeholders about implementation of the provisions of this  
22 act.

23 Section 6. Voluntary greenhouse gas registry.

24 Within 90 days of the effective date of this act, the  
25 department shall create a voluntary greenhouse gas registry  
26 through which interested businesses, governments, institutions  
27 and other entities can record any reductions in greenhouse gas  
28 emissions or any avoided emissions of greenhouse gas emissions  
29 that are achieved in the absence of any government regulation.  
30 The department shall develop rules and criteria for the

1 operation of the registry and shall create a site on the  
2 Internet for the public to examine a current list of registrants  
3 and emission reductions and avoidances.

4 Section 7. Climate change action plan.

5 (a) Action plan required.--Within one year from the  
6 effective date of this act and every three years thereafter, the  
7 department shall, in consultation with the stakeholders, submit  
8 to the Governor for approval a climate change action plan that:

9 (1) Identifies GHG emission trends and baselines in this  
10 Commonwealth.

11 (2) Evaluates cost-effective strategies for reducing GHG  
12 emissions from various sectors in this Commonwealth.

13 (3) Establishes specific reduction targets for overall  
14 GHG emissions in this Commonwealth.

15 (4) Identifies costs, benefits and cobenefits of GHG  
16 reduction strategies recommended by the GHG action plan.

17 (5) Identifies areas of agreement and disagreement among  
18 stakeholders about the GHG action plan.

19 (6) Recommends to the General Assembly legislative  
20 changes necessary to implement the GHG action plan.

21 (b) Approval of Governor.--Within 90 days from receipt of  
22 the GHG action plan, the Governor shall approve the GHG action  
23 plan. In executing his approval, the Governor shall have the  
24 option to amend the GHG action plan.

25 (c) Publication.--The approved GHG action plan shall be  
26 published and distributed to the General Assembly and made  
27 available to the public in printed form and on the Internet  
28 within 30 days of the approval of the plan.

29 Section 8. Effective date.

30 This act shall take effect ~~immediately~~ JULY 1, 2008.

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