

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2652 Session of  
2008

INTRODUCED BY BENNINGHOFF, CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, FAIRCHILD,  
FLECK, GALLOWAY, HARHART, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HUTCHINSON,  
McILVAINE SMITH, REICHLEY, ROCK, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, DALLY  
AND VULAKOVICH, OCTOBER 3, 2008

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, OCTOBER 3, 2008

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Emergency Home Heating Fund; allocating funds;  
2 and imposing powers and duties on the Department of Public  
3 Welfare.

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 Emergency  
8 Home Heating Fund Assistance Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

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

13 "Department." The Department of Public Welfare of the  
14 Commonwealth.

15 "Fund." The Emergency Home Heating Fund established in  
16 section 3.

17 "LIHEAP." The program established by Title XXVI of the

1 Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (Public Law 97-35, 42  
2 U.S.C. § 8621 et seq.).

3 Section 3. Fund.

4 (a) Establishment.--The Emergency Home Heating Fund is  
5 established as a separate fund in the State Treasury.

6 (b) Purpose.--The purpose of the fund is to supplement  
7 LIHEAP.

8 (c) Sources.--The following are the sources of the fund:

9 (1) A transfer of \$2,500 from each Caucus Operations  
10 Account under section 251 of the act of July 4, 2008 (P.L.  
11 , No.38A), known as the General Appropriation Act of 2008.

12 (2) A transfer of \$2,500 from each Special Leadership  
13 Account in section 252 of the General Appropriation Act of  
14 2008.

15 (3) Appropriations.

16 (4) Return on the money in the fund.

17 (d) Use.--The department shall use the fund for State-funded  
18 emergency home heating assistance when the Governor issues a  
19 declaration that weather conditions, natural or manmade  
20 disasters or high energy prices or any combination of those  
21 factors are a threat to public health within this Commonwealth  
22 and available LIHEAP funds are not sufficient to meet this need.  
23 The department shall use the fund in accordance with the crisis  
24 grant portion of LIHEAP.

25 (e) Nonlapse.--The money in the fund is continuously  
26 appropriated into the fund. This appropriation shall not lapse  
27 at the end of any fiscal year.

28 Section 20. Effective date.

29 This act shall take effect immediately.