THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 336

Session of 2007

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, RAFFERTY, LOGAN, BAKER AND WASHINGTON, MARCH 12, 2007

REFERRED TO URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, MARCH 12, 2007

AN ACT

Amending the act of December 3, 1959 (P.L.1688, No.621), 2 entitled, as amended, "An act to promote the health, safety and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth by broadening 3 the market for housing for persons and families of low and 4 5 moderate income and alleviating shortages thereof, and by assisting in the provision of housing for elderly persons 7 through the creation of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance 8 Agency as a public corporation and government 9 instrumentality; providing for the organization, membership and administration of the agency, prescribing its general powers and duties and the manner in which its funds are kept 10 11 and audited, empowering the agency to make housing loans to 12 13 qualified mortgagors upon the security of insured and 14 uninsured mortgages, defining qualified mortgagors and 15 providing for priorities among tenants in certain instances, 16 prescribing interest rates and other terms of housing loans, 17 permitting the agency to acquire real or personal property, permitting the agency to make agreements with financial 18 19 institutions and Federal agencies, providing for the purchase 20 by persons of low and moderate income of housing units, and 21 approving the sale of housing units, permitting the agency to sell housing loans, providing for the promulgation of 22 23 regulations and forms by the agency, prescribing penalties 24 for furnishing false information, empowering the agency to borrow money upon its own credit by the issuance and sale of 25 bonds and notes and by giving security therefor, permitting 26 the refunding, redemption and purchase of such obligations by 27 28 the agency, prescribing remedies of holders of such bonds and 29 notes, exempting bonds and notes of the agency, the income 30 therefrom, and the income and revenues of the agency from 31 taxation, except transfer, death and gift taxes; making such 32 bonds and notes legal investments for certain purposes; and indicating how the act shall become effective, " further 33

- 1 providing for agency membership.
- 2 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 3 hereby enacts as follows:
- 4 Section 1. Section 202 of the act of December 3, 1959
- 5 (P.L.1688, No.621), known as the Housing Finance Agency Law,
- 6 amended December 18, 1992 (P.L.1652, No.182), is amended to
- 7 read:
- 8 Section 202. Agency Membership. -- The members of the agency
- 9 shall be the Secretary of Community [Affairs] and Economic
- 10 <u>Development</u>, the State Treasurer, [the Secretary of Commerce
- 11 and] the Secretary of Banking, the Insurance Commissioner and
- 12 the respective successors in office of each of them, one member
- 13 appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, one member
- 14 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate, one member
- 15 appointed by the Majority Leader of the House of
- 16 Representatives, one member appointed by the Minority Leader of
- 17 the House of Representatives and six additional members whom the
- 18 Governor shall appoint. One of the members of the agency
- 19 appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the
- 20 Senate shall be a representative of a community-based nonprofit
- 21 group which assists low-income and moderate-income individuals
- 22 in housing matters. Annually at the first meeting held during
- 23 the calendar year, the members shall elect one of the members to
- 24 serve as chairperson. The members initially appointed shall
- 25 serve for terms of one, two, three, four, five and six years,
- 26 respectively, the particular term of each to be designated by
- 27 the Governor at the time of appointment. The terms of all their
- 28 successors shall be six years each, except that any person
- 29 appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve only for the unexpired
- 30 term. Every member's term shall extend until his successor is

- 1 appointed and qualified. Any appointment made by the Governor of
- 2 a member of the agency made hereafter shall be subject to the
- 3 advice and consent of a majority of all the members of the
- 4 Senate. Any appointed member of the agency shall be eligible for
- 5 reappointment. The members of the agency shall not receive
- 6 compensation for their services as members, but shall receive
- 7 reimbursement for all necessary expenses incurred in connection
- 8 with the performance of their duties as members. A member who
- 9 fails to attend meetings for three consecutive months shall
- 10 forfeit his seat unless the chairperson of the agency, upon
- 11 written request from the member, finds that the member should be
- 12 excused from a meeting because of illness or the death of an
- 13 immediate family member. Members appointed by the Majority
- 14 Leader of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the
- 15 Majority Leader of the House of Representatives and the Minority
- 16 Leader of the House of Representatives shall not be, themselves,
- 17 current members of the General Assembly and shall serve at the
- 18 pleasure of the appointing authority.
- 19 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.