

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2719 Session of
2010

INTRODUCED BY GROVE, GILLESPIE, BOYD, BROOKS, CUTLER, GABLER,
GODSHALL, HAHN, HARRIS, KAUFFMAN AND SWANGER,
SEPTEMBER 28, 2010

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, SEPTEMBER 28, 2010

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 27, 1996 (P.L.403, No.58), entitled "An
2 act to enhance community and economic development in this
3 Commonwealth by restructuring certain administrative
4 functions and entities; changing the name of the Department
5 of Commerce to the Department of Community and Economic
6 Development; transferring functions of the Department of
7 Community Affairs into the Department of Community and
8 Economic Development and other agencies; providing for a
9 Deputy Secretary for Community Affairs and Development in the
10 Department of Community and Economic Development;
11 establishing the Center for Local Government Services and the
12 Local Government Advisory Committee; establishing the Small
13 Business Advocacy Council; conferring powers and duties on
14 the Legislative Reference Bureau; and making repeals,"
15 further providing for the establishment of the Center for
16 Local Government Services, for the Local Government Advisory
17 Committee, for quorum and meetings and for compensation and
18 expenses.

19 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
20 hereby enacts as follows:

21 Section 1. Sections 301(c), 503, 505 and 506(a) of the act
22 of June 27, 1996 (P.L.403, No.58), known as the Community and
23 Economic Development Enhancement Act, are amended to read:

24 Section 301. To Department of Community and Economic
25 Development.

1 * * *

2 (c) Center for Local Government Services established.--A

3 Center for Local Government Services shall be established and

4 maintained in the department to serve as the link between the

5 Commonwealth and local governments. The center shall be a

6 provider of services to local governments, shall serve as the

7 point of contact for local governments on issues and problems of

8 local concern, shall be responsible for coordinating State

9 program resources in response to local issues and problems and

10 shall establish a systematic process for addressing local issues

11 and problems involving the resources of more than a single

12 agency. In carrying out its responsibilities, the center shall

13 use and have access to the information, services, functions and

14 other resources transferred under subsection (a). The center

15 shall, when authorized by the Governor, use and have access to

16 any other information, services, functions and other resources

17 in the possession of executive agencies under the Governor's

18 jurisdiction deemed necessary to the fulfillment of its

19 responsibilities. The center shall provide to local governments,

20 at no cost, information on purchase contracts for materials,

21 supplies and equipment entered into by the Department of General

22 Services in which local governments may participate pursuant to

23 the provisions of section 2403(h) of The Administrative Code of

24 1929. The Deputy Secretary for Community Affairs and Development

25 shall be responsible for the administration of the center and

26 shall report in writing to the Governor [and Lieutenant

27 Governor] on the activities of the center. The center shall have

28 permanent staff both in its headquarters as well as in the

29 regional offices of the Governor and shall additionally make a

30 toll-free telephone number available to local governments to

1 assist the center in accommodating requests for assistance.

2 Funding for the center shall be provided by the department.

3 * * *

4 Section 503. Committee membership.

5 The Local Government Advisory Committee shall consist of [the
6 Lieutenant Governor, who shall be the chairperson thereof, and]
7 fourteen [additional] members. Five members of the committee
8 shall be elected officials of local government appointed by the
9 Governor, representing, one each, the Pennsylvania State
10 Association of Boroughs, the Pennsylvania State Association of
11 Township Supervisors, the County Commissioners Association of
12 Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania League of Cities and
13 Municipalities and the Pennsylvania State Association of
14 Township Commissioners. Each of these associations shall submit
15 a list of three nominees to the Governor. The Governor shall
16 select one member from each list within 30 days of the receipt
17 of such list, or else may request one or more associations to
18 submit, within 30 days, one substitute list. If an association
19 fails to submit a substitute list as requested by the Governor,
20 the Governor may appoint any member of that association at his
21 or her discretion. Four members of the committee shall be
22 appointed by the Governor, and shall be representative of
23 persons or entities having an interest in the local affairs of
24 the Commonwealth, who may include, but are not necessarily
25 limited to, nonprofit organizations supporting local government
26 and members of the general public. One member of the committee
27 shall be a representative of the Pennsylvania Municipal
28 Authorities Association, appointed by the Governor. The four
29 remaining members shall be appointed, one each, by the President
30 pro tempore of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate,

1 the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Minority
2 Leader of the House of Representatives.

3 Section 505. Quorum and meetings.

4 The Local Government Advisory Committee shall meet at least
5 twice per year, as well as at the call of the Governor [or
6 Lieutenant Governor]. A majority of the members of the committee
7 shall constitute a quorum.

8 Section 506. Compensation and expenses.

9 (a) Compensation.--The members of the committee shall serve
10 without compensation. However, members [other than the
11 Lieutenant Governor] shall be entitled to receive traveling and
12 other reasonable expenses incurred in the discharge of their
13 official duties.

14 * * *

15 Section 2. Upon the ratification of the amendment to the
16 Constitution of Pennsylvania abolishing the office of Lieutenant
17 Governor, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause the date
18 of ratification to be published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

19 Section 3. This act shall take effect as follows:

20 (1) Section 1 of this act shall take effect upon
21 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin of the ratification
22 date of the amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania
23 that abolishes the office of Lieutenant Governor.

24 (2) Section 2 of this act and this section shall take
25 effect immediately.