

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1873 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY EMRICK, FREEMAN, ADOLPH, AUMENT, BOYD, BRENNAN, R. BROWN, CARROLL, CLYMER, COHEN, DePASQUALE, EVANKOVICH, FABRIZIO, FLECK, GABLER, GILLEN, GROVE, HAHN, HARHART, HARRIS, HEFFLEY, HESS, JOSEPHS, KAUFFMAN, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LAWRENCE, MAJOR, MALONEY, MANN, MURT, OBERLANDER, O'NEILL, PEIFER, QUINN, REESE, ROCK, SACCONI, SAMUELSON, SANTARSIERO, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SIMMONS, TOEPEL, TOOHIL, VULAKOVICH, YOUNGBLOOD AND DAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 25, 1931 (P.L.1352, No.332), entitled
 2 "An act providing for joint action by the Commonwealth of
 3 Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey in the
 4 administration, operation, and maintenance of bridges over
 5 the Delaware River, and for the construction of additional
 6 bridge facilities across said river; authorizing the
 7 Governor, for these purposes, to enter into an agreement with
 8 the State of New Jersey; creating a Delaware River Joint Toll
 9 Bridge Commission and specifying the powers and duties
 10 thereof, including the power to finance the construction of
 11 additional bridges by the issuance of revenue bonds to be
 12 redeemed from revenues derived from tolls collected at such
 13 bridges; transferring to said commission all powers now
 14 exercised by existing commission created to acquire toll
 15 bridges over the Delaware River; and making an
 16 appropriation," providing for audits.

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

19 Section 1. Article IX of section 1 of the act of June 25,
 20 1931 (P.L.1352, No.332), referred to as the Delaware River Joint
 21 Toll Bridge Compact, amended July 11, 1996 (P.L.556, No.99), is
 22 amended to read:

ARTICLE IX.

The commission shall make annual reports to the Governors and Legislatures of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey setting forth in detail its operations and transactions, and may make such additional reports from time to time to the Governors and Legislatures, as it may deem advisable.

[The commission shall submit biennially to a performance audit jointly conducted by the Auditor General of Pennsylvania and the State Auditor of New Jersey, which shall include expenditures and operations of the commission. These auditors shall complete the performance audit and prepare a joint report by December 31 of every odd-numbered year, with the first audit and report to be completed by December 31, 1997. A report of those audits shall be submitted to the Governors and Legislatures of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey and to the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission.

An annual financial audit shall be conducted at the expense of the commission by an independent accounting firm in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A written report of each audit shall be submitted to the commission and shall be retained by the commission for at least five years.]

The Auditor General of Pennsylvania and the State Auditor of New Jersey shall jointly conduct annual financial and management audits of expenditures and operations of the commission and shall submit a report of those audits to the Governors and Legislatures of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey.

1 Section 2. The Governor shall not enter into a supplemental
2 compact or agreement on behalf of the Commonwealth of
3 Pennsylvania until passage by the State of New Jersey of a
4 substantially similar act embodying a supplemental compact or
5 agreement between the two states.

6 Section 3. The Governor shall publish the date of execution
7 of any supplemental compact or agreement referenced in section 2
8 as a notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

9 Section 4. This act shall take effect as follows:

10 (1) Sections 2 and 3 of this act shall take effect
11 immediately upon publication of the notice provided for under
12 section 3.

13 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect
14 immediately.