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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 422 Session of  
2011

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INTRODUCED BY LEACH, FONTANA, ERICKSON, TARTAGLIONE, GREENLEAF  
AND FERLO, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

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REFERRED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 7, 2011

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805, No.247), entitled,  
2 as amended, "An act to empower cities of the second class A,  
3 and third class, boroughs, incorporated towns, townships of  
4 the first and second classes including those within a county  
5 of the second class and counties of the second through eighth  
6 classes, individually or jointly, to plan their development  
7 and to govern the same by zoning, subdivision and land  
8 development ordinances, planned residential development and  
9 other ordinances, by official maps, by the reservation of  
10 certain land for future public purpose and by the acquisition  
11 of such land; to promote the conservation of energy through  
12 the use of planning practices and to promote the effective  
13 utilization of renewable energy sources; providing for the  
14 establishment of planning commissions, planning departments,  
15 planning committees and zoning hearing boards, authorizing  
16 them to charge fees, make inspections and hold public  
17 hearings; providing for mediation; providing for transferable  
18 development rights; providing for appropriations, appeals to  
19 courts and penalties for violations; and repealing acts and  
20 parts of acts," further providing for ordinance provisions.

21 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

22 hereby enacts as follows:

23 Section 1. Section 603 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805,  
24 No.247), known as the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code,  
25 reenacted and amended December 21, 1988 (P.L.1329, No.170), is  
26 amended by adding a subsection to read:

27 Section 603. Ordinance Provisions.--\* \* \*

1 (m) Zoning ordinances may regulate and restrict the size and  
2 location of nonaccessory outdoor advertising in order to advance  
3 any of the following government purposes:

4 (1) to preserve the historic character of the  
5 municipality;

6 (2) to preserve the aesthetic beauty of the  
7 municipality;

8 (3) to preserve public safety, specifically the safety  
9 of pedestrians and motorists along public roads in the  
10 municipality; or

11 (4) to conserve energy resources by prohibiting or  
12 significantly limiting the proliferation of digital or  
13 electronic nonaccessory outdoor advertising signs;  
14 provided the regulations or restrictions are not overly broad  
15 and are consistent with all Federal and State constitutional  
16 provisions.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.