

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL**No. 1433** Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY GORDNER, PILEGGI, COSTA, BROWNE, WAUGH, ERICKSON,
RAFFERTY, FONTANA, BAKER, ALLOWAY, VANCE, STACK, YUDICHAK,
FERLO, PIPPY, GREENLEAF, SCHWANK, WOZNIAK, BLAKE, BREWSTER,
ARGALL, ORIE, LEACH, VOGEL, DINNIMAN, BOSCOLA AND MENSCH,
MARCH 6, 2012

SENATOR CORMAN, APPROPRIATIONS, RE-REPORTED AS AMENDED, MAY 8,
2012

AN ACT

1 Providing for the Homeowner Assistance Settlement Act;
2 establishing a fund for the purpose of funding the
3 Homeowner's Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program; and
4 providing for an appropriation.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Homeowner
9 Assistance Settlement Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

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

14 "Fund." The Homeowner Assistance Settlement Fund established
15 in section 3(a).

16 "Homeowner Assistance Settlement Agreement." The settlement
17 agreement and related documents entered into on February 9,

1 2012, by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth and the
2 leading United States mortgage servicing companies.

3 Section 3. Establishment of special fund, distribution of
4 moneys and limitation on annual appropriation.

5 (a) Homeowner Assistance Settlement Fund.--There is
6 established a special fund known as the Homeowner Assistance
7 Settlement Fund. All payments received by the Commonwealth
8 pursuant to the Homeowner Assistance Settlement Agreement shall
9 be deposited by the Treasury Department into the fund.

10 (b) Distribution of funds.--~~Subject to an appropriation each~~ ←
11 ~~fiscal year by the General Assembly, the~~ ← THE moneys in the fund ←
12 shall be distributed ~~proportionally~~ ← EACH FISCAL YEAR NO LATER ←
13 THAN JULY 1, BY THE STATE TREASURER, subject to the following
14 limitations:

15 (1) ~~No less than 90% of the funds distributed shall be~~ ←
16 ~~appropriated~~ ← NINETY PERCENT SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED to the
17 Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency for the purpose of
18 funding the Homeowner's Emergency Mortgage Assistance
19 Program.

20 (2) ~~No more than 10% of the funds distributed shall be~~ ←
21 ~~appropriated~~ ← FIVE PERCENT SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED to the Office ←
22 of Attorney General for the purpose of funding housing
23 consumer protection programs.

24 (3) FIVE PERCENT SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE ACCESS TO ←
25 JUSTICE ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED UNDER 42 PA.C.S. § 4904 (RELATING
26 TO ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACCOUNT) FOR CIVIL
27 LEGAL ASSISTANCE RELATED TO HOUSING ISSUES.

28 (c) Limitation on annual ~~appropriation~~ ← DISTRIBUTION.--The ←
29 annual ~~appropriation~~ ← DISTRIBUTION of funds under subsection (b) ←
30 shall not exceed \$12,000,000 annually.

1 ~~Section 4. Supplemental appropriation.~~ ←

2 ~~In addition to the appropriation provided for under section~~
3 ~~236 of the act of June 30, 2011 (P.L.633, No.1A), known as the~~
4 ~~General Appropriation Act of 2011, the sum of \$6,000,000 is~~
5 ~~hereby appropriated from the fund to the Pennsylvania Housing~~
6 ~~Finance Agency for the purpose of a supplemental appropriation~~
7 ~~for the Homeowner's Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program for~~
8 ~~the fiscal period beginning July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012.~~

9 SECTION 4. INITIAL DISTRIBUTION. ←

10 THE SUM OF \$6,000,000 IS HEREBY DISTRIBUTED FROM THE FUND TO
11 THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY FOR THE HOMEOWNER'S
12 EMERGENCY MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

13 Section 5. Effective date.

14 This act shall take effect immediately.