

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 548 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY SOLOBAY, BREWSTER, HUGHES AND FERLO,
FEBRUARY 21, 2013

REFERRED TO FINANCE, FEBRUARY 21, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 23, 1931 (P.L.932, No.317), entitled
2 "An act relating to cities of the third class; and amending,
3 revising, and consolidating the law relating thereto,"
4 further providing for tax levies.

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

7 Section 1. Section 2531 of the act of June 23, 1931 (P.L.
8 932, No.317), known as The Third Class City Code, reenacted and
9 amended June 28, 1951 (P.L.662, No.164), is amended by adding
10 clauses to read:

11 Section 2531. Tax Levies.--Council may, by ordinance, levy
12 and provide for the collection of the following taxes:

13 * * *

14 6. (i) A fire tax for the purchase of fire equipment for
15 the use of the city or for assisting any fire company in the
16 city in the purchase, renewal or repair of any of its fire
17 equipment, for the purposes of making appropriations to fire
18 companies both within and without the city and of contracting
19 with adjacent municipalities or volunteer fire companies in

1 adjacent municipalities for fire protection, for the training of
2 fire personnel and payments to fire training schools and centers
3 or for the purchase of land upon which to erect a firehouse, or
4 for the erection and maintenance of a firehouse or fire training
5 school and center or firehouses, not exceeding three mills,
6 except as provided in subclause (iii).

7 (ii) The city may appropriate up to one-half of the revenue
8 generated from a tax under this clause, but not exceeding an
9 amount equal to one mill of the tax, for the purpose of paying
10 salaries, benefits or other compensation of fire suppression
11 employees of the city or a fire company serving the city.

12 (iii) If an annual tax for the purposes specified in this
13 clause is proposed to be set at a level higher than three mills,
14 the question shall be submitted to the voters of the city, and
15 the county board of elections shall frame the question in
16 accordance with the election laws of this Commonwealth for
17 submission to the voters of the city.

18 7. (i) A tax for the purpose of supporting ambulance,
19 rescue and other emergency services serving the city, not to
20 exceed one-half mill, except as provided in subclause (ii). The
21 city may appropriate up to one-half of the revenue generated
22 from a tax under this clause for the purpose of paying salaries,
23 benefits or other compensation of employees of the ambulance,
24 rescue or other emergency services.

25 (ii) The tax for supporting ambulance, rescue and other
26 emergency services serving the city may not exceed the rate
27 specified in subclause (i) except when the question is submitted
28 to the voters of the city in the form of a referendum that shall
29 appear on the ballot in accordance with the election laws of
30 this Commonwealth, in which case the rate may not exceed two

1 mills. The county board of elections shall frame the question to
2 be submitted to the voters of the city in accordance with the
3 election laws of this Commonwealth.

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