

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 343 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY CAUSER, BAKER, D. COSTA, GABLER, HEFFLEY, JAMES, M. K. KELLER, MAJOR, METCALFE, MILLARD, MURT, OBERLANDER, PEIFER, PICKETT, RAPP, SONNEY AND TOPPER, FEBRUARY 5, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 17, 1929 (P.L.1798, No.591), entitled
 2 "An act providing a fixed charge, payable by the
 3 Commonwealth, on lands acquired by the State and the Federal
 4 Government for forest reserves, or for the purpose of
 5 preserving and perpetuating a portion of the original forests
 6 of Pennsylvania, and preserving and maintaining the same as
 7 public places and parks; and the distribution of the same for
 8 county, school, township, and road purposes in the counties,
 9 school districts, and townships where such forests are
 10 located; and making an appropriation," providing for
 11 distribution of timber, wood products and gas and oil ground
 12 rentals and royalties.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. The act of May 17, 1929 (P.L.1798, No.591),
 16 referred to as the Forest Reserves Municipal Financial Relief
 17 Law, is amended by adding a section to read:

18 Section 3. (a) The Forest Reserves Municipal Relief Fund is
 19 established in the State Treasury, which shall be administered
 20 by the State Treasurer.

21 (b) Twenty percent of all revenues received by a State
 22 agency, except the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the

1 Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, through the sale of
2 timber and wood products, gas and oil ground rentals and
3 royalties and all other rentals from lands acquired by the
4 Commonwealth for the purposes enumerated in section 1, shall,
5 within thirty days of receipt of the revenue, be deposited into
6 the fund.

7 (c) The State Treasurer shall distribute the money in the
8 fund to counties, school districts and municipalities
9 proportionately based on the relative number of acres in each
10 county, school district or municipality as certified by the
11 Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources under section
12 2(a).

13 (d) All money in the fund shall be distributed on or before
14 the first day of September each year.

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.