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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1289 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY GOODMAN, BISHOP, COHEN, D. COSTA, FREEMAN,  
A. HARRIS, LONGIETTI, McNEILL, MURT, ROZZI, SCHLOSSBERG AND  
ZIMMERMAN, JUNE 5, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, JUNE 5, 2015

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AN ACT

1 Establishing the Local Government Capital Project Grant Program;  
2 and providing for grants to municipalities to assist small,  
3 low-income municipalities with essential capital needs.

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

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Local  
8 Government Capital Project Grant Program Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

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

13 "Department." The Department of Community and Economic  
14 Development of the Commonwealth.

15 "Equipment." A truck, car, bulldozer, backhoe, grader,  
16 highlift, forklift, street sweeper, police vehicle or other  
17 mechanized vehicle.

18 "Facility." Any of the following:

1 (1) A structure used to house an office or equipment.

2 (2) An improvement to a structure identified under  
3 paragraph (1).

4 (3) The land on which a structure identified under  
5 paragraph (1) is situated.

6 "Municipality." Any of the following with a median household  
7 income that is not more than 75% of the State median household  
8 income:

9 (1) A city.

10 (2) A borough.

11 (3) An incorporated town.

12 (4) A township.

13 (5) A home rule, optional plan or optional charter  
14 municipality.

15 "Program." The Local Government Capital Project Grant  
16 Program.

17 Section 3. Local Government Capital Project Grant Program.

18 (a) Establishment.--The Local Government Capital Project  
19 Grant Program is established within the department.

20 (b) Purpose.--The department may, under the program and upon  
21 application by a municipality, issue grants for the following  
22 purposes and in the following amounts:

23 (1) Equipment. The amount of a grant awarded to a  
24 municipality for the purchase of equipment may not exceed  
25 \$50,000.

26 (2) Facilities. The amount of a grant awarded to a  
27 municipality to construct, replace, expand, improve or repair  
28 a facility may not exceed \$100,000.

29 (c) Limitation.--The amount of a grant awarded under  
30 subsection (b) may not exceed 50% of the total eligible project

1 cost.

2 Section 4. Allocation and priority.

3 (a) Allocation.--At least 70% of the funding awarded under  
4 the program must be awarded to municipalities with a population  
5 of not more than 5,500. The remainder of the funding awarded  
6 under the program must be awarded to municipalities with a  
7 population of not more than 12,000.

8 (b) Priority.--Priority shall be given to municipalities  
9 that do not receive local share assessment funding under 4  
10 Pa.C.S. (relating to amusements) or unconventional gas well fee  
11 funding under 58 Pa.C.S. Ch. 23 (relating to unconventional gas  
12 well fee).

13 Section 5. Guidelines.

14 The department shall adopt guidelines for the approval of  
15 applications under the program.

16 Section 6. Local Government Capital Project Grant Fund.

17 The Local Government Capital Project Grant Fund is  
18 established within the State Treasury which shall receive money  
19 as may be credited to the fund or appropriated by the General  
20 Assembly. Money in the fund is appropriated on a continuing  
21 basis to the department for the purposes of this act.

22 Section 7. Effective date.

23 This act shall take effect in 60 days.