

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 294 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY D. COSTA, CALTAGIRONE, McNEILL AND DeLUCA,
FEBRUARY 2, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, FEBRUARY 2, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 10, 1999 (P.L.491, No.45), entitled
2 "An act establishing a uniform construction code; imposing
3 powers and duties on municipalities and the Department of
4 Labor and Industry; providing for enforcement; imposing
5 penalties; and making repeals," in adoption and enforcement
6 by municipalities, providing for fire protection services
7 fee.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. The act of November 10, 1999 (P.L.491, No.45),
11 known as the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, is amended by
12 adding a section to read:

13 Section 501.1. Fire protection services fee.

14 (a) Fee.--Municipalities administering and enforcing the
15 provisions of this act may assess a fee of not more than \$30 for
16 fire protection services on each occupancy permit issued under
17 this act. The fee for fire protection services shall be in
18 addition to any other fee imposed on the occupancy permit. The
19 fee may only be used to pay for the following:

20 (1) Accessory equipment, apparatus equipment,

1 communications equipment and protective equipment used by
2 volunteer firefighters or firefighters employed by
3 municipalities for firefighting, emergency response services
4 and training purposes.

5 (2) Rescue vehicles or utility or special service
6 vehicles used by volunteer firefighters or firefighters
7 employed by municipalities for firefighting, emergency
8 response services and training purposes.

9 (3) Construction or maintenance of firehouses utilized
10 by volunteer firefighters or firefighters employed by
11 municipalities.

12 (4) Salaries of paid firefighters who are employed by a
13 municipality.

14 (b) Exemption.--An owner of a commercial building, who is a
15 resident of the municipality in which the commercial building is
16 located, shall not be liable to pay a fee for fire protection
17 services in connection with an occupancy permit.

18 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
19 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
20 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

21 "Accessory equipment." Firefighting and rescue equipment
22 necessary to carry out the ordinary functions of supporting fire
23 and rescue activities.

24 "Apparatus equipment." Elevated equipment, pumpers, tankers,
25 ladder trucks, utility or special service vehicles, rescue
26 vehicles or other large equipment used by firefighters.

27 "Communications equipment." Any voice or original
28 transmission system required to support the operation of a fire
29 company.

30 "Firehouse." Facilities used by fire companies to house

1 firefighting equipment. The term shall not include meeting
2 halls, social rooms or any other facilities not directly related
3 to firefighting.

4 "Protective equipment." Any equipment used by firefighters
5 to protect their persons from injury while performing their
6 functions, including, but not limited to, helmets, turnout coats
7 and pants, boots, eyeshields, gloves and self-contained
8 respiratory protection units.

9 "Rescue vehicle." Any vehicle used for the rescue services.

10 "Utility or special service vehicle." A vehicle carrying
11 accessory equipment, including, but not limited to, ladders,
12 oxygen equipment, generators and adapters, floodlights, smoke
13 ejectors and other equipment necessary to perform the ordinary
14 functions of supporting firefighting activities.

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