
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 374 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY EVERETT, SOLOMON, PASHINSKI, STURLA, LONGIETTI,
MILLARD, INNAMORATO, SAYLOR AND DeLUCA, FEBRUARY 5, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 5, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 27 (Environmental Resources) and 75 (Vehicles)
2 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for
3 Keystone Tree Fund; and, in registration of vehicles,
4 providing for contributions to the Keystone Tree Fund.

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

7 Section 1. Title 27 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

9 CHAPTER 66

10 KEYSTONE TREE FUND

11 Sec.

12 6601. Definitions.

13 6602. Establishment.

14 6603. Sources of revenue.

15 6604. Authorized purposes.

16 6605. Contributions.

17 6606. Statement of policy.

18 6607. Report.

19 § 6601. Definitions.

1 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
2 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
3 context clearly indicates otherwise:

4 "Department." The Department of Conservation and Natural
5 Resources of the Commonwealth.

6 "Fund." The Keystone Tree Fund established under section
7 6602 (relating to establishment).

8 § 6602. Establishment.

9 The Keystone Tree Fund is established in the State Treasury.
10 The money in the fund is appropriated on a continuing basis to
11 the department for the purposes specified in section 6604
12 (relating to authorized purposes).

13 § 6603. Sources of revenue.

14 The fund shall include the following:

15 (1) Proceeds paid by the Department of Transportation
16 under 75 Pa.C.S. § 1322 (relating to contributions to
17 Keystone Tree Fund).

18 (2) Grants, gifts, donations and other payments from a
19 person or governmental entity to the fund.

20 (3) Money appropriated to the fund.

21 § 6604. Authorized purposes.

22 The department may expend money from the fund for the
23 purposes and in the allocations as follows:

24 (1) A tree vitalize program, 40%.

25 (2) A riparian forest buffer grant program, 60%.

26 § 6605. Contributions.

27 The department may solicit and accept gifts, donations,
28 legacies and other money for deposit into the fund from a person
29 or a government entity on behalf of the Commonwealth.

30 § 6606. Statement of policy.

1 The department shall adopt a statement of policy for the
2 maintenance and use the fund within 60 days of the effective
3 date of this section. The statement of policy shall be published
4 as a notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin but shall not be
5 subject to review under section 205 of the act of July 31, 1968
6 (P.L.769, No.240), referred to as the Commonwealth Documents
7 Law, sections 204(b) and 301(10) of the act of October 15, 1980
8 (P.L.950, No.164), known as the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, or
9 the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the
10 Regulatory Review Act.

11 § 6607. Report.

12 By July 31, 2019, and each year thereafter, the department
13 shall submit to the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
14 Environmental Resources and Energy Committee of the Senate and
15 the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Environmental
16 Resources and Energy Committee of the House of Representatives a
17 report detailing the fund revenues and expenditures in the prior
18 fiscal year and describing the activities, programs and projects
19 which received money from the fund.

20 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:
21 § 1322. Contributions to Keystone Tree Fund.

22 (a) General rule.--Within one year of the effective date of
23 this section the department shall provide for all of the
24 following:

25 (1) Ability of a person renewing a driver's license or
26 identification card electronically through the department's
27 publicly accessible Internet website to make a contribution
28 of \$3 to the Keystone Tree Fund established by 27 Pa.C.S. §
29 6602 (relating to establishment).

30 (2) Ability of a person renewing a vehicle registration

1 electronically through the department's publicly accessible
2 Internet website to make a contribution of \$3 to the Keystone
3 Tree Fund.

4 (b) Implementation.--

5 (1) A contribution under subsection (a) shall be added,
6 as appropriate, to the regular fee for:

7 (i) A renewal of a driver's license or
8 identification card.

9 (ii) A renewal of a vehicle registration.

10 (2) One contribution under subsection (a) may be made
11 for:

12 (i) Each renewal of a driver's license or
13 identification card.

14 (ii) Each renewal of a vehicle registration.

15 (c) Use.--Contributions under subsection (a) shall be used
16 exclusively for purposes specified in 27 Pa.C.S. § 6604
17 (relating to authorized purposes).

18 (d) Deposits.--

19 (1) The department shall determine on a monthly basis
20 the total amount collected under this section and report the
21 amount to the Department of Revenue and the State Treasurer.

22 (2) The State Treasurer shall transfer the amount from
23 the Motor License Fund to the Keystone Tree Fund.

24 (e) Reimbursement.--The Keystone Tree Fund shall reimburse
25 the Motor License Fund for the actual costs incurred by the
26 department in the administration of this section.

27 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.