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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 781 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, MILLARD, JAMES, B. MILLER, MASSER,  
FREEMAN, NEILSON, MURT, BERNSTINE, WHEELAND, JONES, KAUFER,  
KORTZ, BARRAR, READSHAW, TOOHIL, CARROLL, GILLEN, MOUL,  
MULLERY AND GAYDOS, MARCH 11, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,  
MARCH 11, 2019

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 58 (Oil and Gas) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in unconventional gas well fee, further providing  
3 for Statewide initiatives.

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

6 Section 1. Section 2315(a.1)(5) of Title 58 of the  
7 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 2315. Statewide initiatives.

9 \* \* \*

10 (a.1) Deposit and distribution.--Following distribution  
11 under section 2314(c), (c.1) and (c.2) (relating to distribution  
12 of fee) from fees collected for 2011 and each year thereafter,  
13 40% of the remaining revenue in the fund shall be deposited into  
14 the Marcellus Legacy Fund and appropriated to the commission and  
15 distributed within three months after the date the fee is due as  
16 follows:

17 \* \* \*

1           (5) Fifteen percent for the planning, acquisition,  
2 development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways,  
3 recreational trails, open space, natural areas, community  
4 conservation and beautification projects, community and  
5 heritage parks and water resource management. Funds may be  
6 used to acquire lands for recreational or conservation  
7 purposes and land damaged or prone to drainage by storms or  
8 flooding. Funds may also be used for storm water management.  
9 Funds shall be distributed to counties proportionately based  
10 on the population of the county as follows:

11           (i) In each county, the distribution shall be  
12 according to the following formula:

13           (A) Divide:

14                 (I) the total population of the county; by

15                 (II) the total population of the

16 Commonwealth.

17           (B) Express the quotient under clause (A) as a  
18 percentage.

19           (C) Multiply:

20                 (I) the percentage under clause (B); by

21                 (II) the amount of funds available under

22 this paragraph.

23           (ii) Each county shall receive a minimum of \$25,000  
24 to the extent funds are available.

25           \* \* \*

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