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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1074 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY TURZAI, HENNESSEY, RYAN, BERNSTINE, PICKETT, PYLE,  
ROTHMAN, STAATS AND MEHAFFIE, APRIL 5, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, APRIL 5, 2019

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in municipal authorities, providing  
3 for governing bodies of airport authorities located in  
4 counties of the second class.

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

7 Section 1. Title 53 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 5610.1. Governing bodies of airport authorities located in  
10 counties of the second class.

11 (a) General rule.--An airport authority established under  
12 this chapter that operates in a county of the second class shall  
13 have a board composed of 13 members.

14 (b) Terms of existing members.--

15 (1) The terms of members serving on the board on the  
16 effective date of this subsection shall expire in 60 days.

17 (2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to  
18 prohibit a current member from being reappointed by an  
19 appointing authority under this chapter.

1 (c) Membership.--The board shall be composed of the  
2 following members:

3 (1) One member appointed by the Governor.

4 (2) Four members appointed by officers of the General  
5 Assembly as follows:

6 (i) One individual shall be appointed by the  
7 President pro tempore of the Senate.

8 (ii) One individual shall be appointed by the  
9 Minority Leader of the Senate.

10 (iii) One individual shall be appointed by the  
11 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

12 (iv) One individual shall be appointed by the  
13 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

14 (3) Eight members appointed by the county executive of  
15 the county where the authority is located.

16 (d) Terms of members.--

17 (1) The member appointed by the Governor under  
18 subsection (c) (1) shall serve a four-year term.

19 (2) The members appointed by the President pro tempore  
20 of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the Senate under  
21 subsection (c) (2) shall serve a four-year term.

22 (3) The members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
23 Representatives and the Minority Leader of the House of  
24 Representatives shall serve an initial three-year term  
25 immediately following the effective date of this section, to  
26 be followed thereafter by a four-year term.

27 (4) The members appointed by the county executive shall  
28 serve an initial term as follows to be immediately followed  
29 thereafter by a four-year term:

30 (i) Four appointees under subsection (c) (3) shall

1 serve an initial term of two years, as designated by the  
2 county executive.

3 (ii) Four appointees under subsection (c)(3) shall  
4 serve an initial term of three years, as designated by  
5 the county executive.

6 (e) Residency requirements.--Except for an appointee under  
7 subsection (c)(1) who must be a resident of this Commonwealth,  
8 appointees must be residents of the county where the authority  
9 is located and have expertise or substantial experience in  
10 budgeting, finance, economic development, aviation or airport  
11 operations.

12 (f) Time for initial appointments.--

13 (1) Appointing authorities shall appoint initial members  
14 within 60 days of the effective date of this section.

15 (2) The terms of initial members shall commence 60 days  
16 following the effective date of this subsection.

17 (g) Term limitations.--No member shall serve more than three  
18 consecutive terms, including initial terms.

19 (h) Compensation and expenses.--A member shall be entitled  
20 to compensation consistent with the provisions of section  
21 5607(d)(8) (relating to purposes and powers) for the member's  
22 services and shall be entitled to the necessary expenses,  
23 including traveling expenses incurred in the performance of the  
24 member's duties.

25 (i) Organizational structure and meetings.--

26 (1) Within 90 days after the effective date of this  
27 section, the board shall meet and organize by electing from  
28 their number a chairman, a vice chairman and other officers  
29 as the board may determine.

30 (2) The board may employ a secretary, an executive

1 director, counsel and legal staff, technical experts and  
2 other agents and employees, permanent or temporary, as the  
3 board may require, and may determine the qualifications and  
4 fix the compensation of those persons.

5 (3) Seven members of the board shall constitute a quorum  
6 for the board's meetings.

7 (4) The consent of at least eight members of the board  
8 shall be necessary to take action on behalf of the authority.

9 (5) Board action on the following matters shall be  
10 tabled upon motion and seconded by the two board members  
11 appointed under subsection (c) (2) by officers of the General  
12 Assembly who are not of the same political party affiliation  
13 as the county executive:

14 (i) Adopting bylaws.

15 (ii) Appointing a chief executive officer.

16 (iii) Authorizing bonds, other borrowing and leases.

17 (iv) Approving contracts that entail expenditures in  
18 excess of \$5,000,000.

19 (6) Members of the board shall not be liable personally  
20 on the bonds or other obligations of the authority, and the  
21 rights of creditors shall be solely against the authority.

22 (7) The board may delegate to one or more of its agents  
23 or employees powers as the board deems necessary to carry out  
24 the purposes of this chapter, subject to the supervision and  
25 control of the board.

26 (8) The board shall have the authority to make bylaws as  
27 provided under section 5607(d) (7).

28 (9) Copies of bylaws, rules and regulations shall be  
29 filed with the county council of the county.

30 (j) Removal of members.--A member may be removed for cause

1 by the court of common pleas of the county in which the  
2 authority is located after having been provided with a copy of  
3 the charges against the member for at least 10 days and a full  
4 hearing by the court.

5 (k) Vacancy of members.--If a vacancy occurs by reason of  
6 the death, resignation or removal of a member, the designated  
7 appointing authority shall appoint a successor to fill the  
8 unexpired term within 60 days.

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