
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2616 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY HANBIDGE, SAPPEY, GALLOWAY, HOWARD, WEBSTER,
ROZZI, HILL-EVANS, WARREN AND SANCHEZ, JUNE 23, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, JUNE 23, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in local organizations and services,
3 further providing for general authority of political
4 subdivisions.

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

7 Section 1. Section 7501 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subsection to read:
9 § 7501. General authority of political subdivisions.

10 * * *

11 (d.1) Applications before body.--For each political
12 subdivision included in a declaration of disaster emergency
13 declared by the Governor under section 7301 (relating to general
14 authority of Governor), an action required by law in
15 consideration of any application, plat, plan or other submission
16 for an approval, as defined in section 2 of the act of July 9,
17 2013 (P.L.362, No.54), known as the Development Permit Extension
18 Act, or for an action on an appeal or curative amendment, the
19 following shall apply:

1 (1) Notwithstanding any provision of law, for an
2 approval, application, plat, plan, submission, appeal or
3 curative amendment received or pending as of the date of or
4 during the Governor's declaration of a disaster emergency,
5 the number of days provided to satisfy statutory time limits
6 in review, hearing and decision shall be suspended and tolled
7 as of the date of declaration of disaster emergency or as of
8 the date received if received during the disaster or
9 emergency declaration and shall resume 60 days after the
10 declaration of disaster emergency has expired or terminated.

11 (2) Written notification of the declaration of disaster
12 emergency, the time extension under this section and the
13 right to a request as provided under paragraph (3). A failure
14 to receive the notice provided under this paragraph shall not
15 affect the tolling of the number of days provided to satisfy
16 statutory time limits for review, hearing or decisions.

17 (3) Within 30 days of receipt of the notification
18 required under paragraph (2), an applicant may request a
19 meeting, hearing or proceeding as may be required by law, and
20 provisions governing the application, plat, plan, submission,
21 appeal or curative amendment during the period of the
22 disaster emergency in accordance with this section. The
23 agency, department, authority, commission, board, council,
24 governing body or other entity of a political subdivision
25 shall have discretion to proceed with a request under this
26 paragraph. If a proceeding is authorized, the applicant and
27 each party receiving actual notice of the proceeding shall be
28 deemed to waive any challenge to the proceedings under 65
29 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7 (relating to open meetings) or any other
30 provision of law that governs the notice, conduct or

1 participation in a meeting or proceeding.

2 * * *

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.