

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 173 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, MARTIN, COSTA, BREWSTER, KEARNEY AND SCHWANK, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

REFERRED TO URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 3, 1959 (P.L.1688, No.621),
 2 entitled "An act to promote the health, safety and welfare of
 3 the people of the Commonwealth by broadening the market for
 4 housing for persons and families of low and moderate income
 5 and alleviating shortages thereof, and by assisting in the
 6 provision of housing for elderly persons through the creation
 7 of the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency as a public
 8 corporation and government instrumentality; providing for the
 9 organization, membership and administration of the agency,
 10 prescribing its general powers and duties and the manner in
 11 which its funds are kept and audited, empowering the agency
 12 to make housing loans to qualified mortgagors upon the
 13 security of insured and uninsured mortgages, defining
 14 qualified mortgagors and providing for priorities among
 15 tenants in certain instances, prescribing interest rates and
 16 other terms of housing loans, permitting the agency to
 17 acquire real or personal property, permitting the agency to
 18 make agreements with financial institutions and Federal
 19 agencies, providing for the purchase by persons of low and
 20 moderate income of housing units, and approving the sale of
 21 housing units, permitting the agency to sell housing loans,
 22 providing for the promulgation of regulations and forms by
 23 the agency, prescribing penalties for furnishing false
 24 information, empowering the agency to borrow money upon its
 25 own credit by the issuance and sale of bonds and notes and by
 26 giving security therefor, permitting the refunding,
 27 redemption and purchase of such obligations by the agency,
 28 prescribing remedies of holders of such bonds and notes,
 29 exempting bonds and notes of the agency, the income
 30 therefrom, and the income and revenues of the agency from
 31 taxation, except transfer, death and gift taxes; making such
 32 bonds and notes legal investments for certain purposes; and
 33 indicating how the act shall become effective," in the
 34 agency, further providing for agency membership.

1 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
2 hereby enacts as follows:

3 Section 1. Section 202 of the act of December 3, 1959
4 (P.L.1688, No.621), known as the Housing Finance Agency Law, is
5 amended to read:

6 Section 202. Agency Membership.--The members of the agency
7 shall be the Secretary of Community [Affairs] and Economic
8 Development, the State Treasurer, [the Secretary of Commerce
9 and] the Secretary of Banking^[,] and Securities, the Insurance
10 Commissioner and the respective successors in office of each of
11 them, one member appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate,
12 one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate, one
13 member appointed by the Majority Leader of the House of
14 Representatives, one member appointed by the Minority Leader of
15 the House of Representatives and six additional members whom the
16 Governor shall appoint. One of the members of the agency
17 appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the
18 Senate shall be a representative of a community-based nonprofit
19 group which assists low-income and moderate-income individuals
20 in housing matters. Annually at the first meeting held during
21 the calendar year, the members shall elect one of the members to
22 serve as chairperson. The members initially appointed shall
23 serve for terms of one, two, three, four, five and six years,
24 respectively, the particular term of each to be designated by
25 the Governor at the time of appointment. The terms of all their
26 successors shall be six years each, except that any person
27 appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve only for the unexpired
28 term. Every member's term shall extend until his successor is
29 appointed and qualified. Any appointment made by the Governor of
30 a member of the agency made hereafter shall be subject to the

1 advice and consent of a majority of all the members of the
2 Senate. Any appointed member of the agency shall be eligible for
3 reappointment. The members of the agency shall not receive
4 compensation for their services as members, but shall receive
5 reimbursement for all necessary expenses incurred in connection
6 with the performance of their duties as members. A member who
7 fails to attend meetings for three consecutive months shall
8 forfeit his seat unless the chairperson of the agency, upon
9 written request from the member, finds that the member should be
10 excused from a meeting because of illness or the death of an
11 immediate family member. Members appointed by the Majority
12 Leader of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the
13 Majority Leader of the House of Representatives and the Minority
14 Leader of the House of Representatives shall not be, themselves,
15 current members of the General Assembly and shall serve at the
16 pleasure of the appointing authority.

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