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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2458 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY WHITE, GREINER, GROVE, HAMM, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY,  
KAIL, M. MACKENZIE, R. MACKENZIE, MILLARD, MIZGORSKI,  
NEILSON, PICKETT, ROTHMAN, RYAN, SAYLOR, SMITH AND STRUZZI,  
MARCH 24, 2022

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,  
MARCH 24, 2022

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AN ACT

1 Establishing the Philadelphia LNG Export Task Force; and  
2 providing for duties of task force.

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

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Philadelphia  
7 LNG Export Task Force Act.

8 Section 2. Findings and declarations.

9 The General Assembly finds and declares that due to Russia's  
10 invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, it is essential for  
11 this Commonwealth to have the means to export liquefied natural  
12 gas to other countries to reduce their reliance on Russian  
13 energy.

14 Section 3. Definitions.

15 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
16 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

1 context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "LNG." Liquefied natural gas.

3 "Task force." The Philadelphia LNG Export Task Force  
4 established under section 4.

5 Section 4. Establishment of task force.

6 The Philadelphia LNG Export Task Force is established for the  
7 purposes specified under this act.

8 Section 5. Composition and meetings of task force.

9 (a) Composition.--The task force shall be comprised of the  
10 following members:

11 (1) The Secretary of Environmental Protection or a  
12 designee, who shall be an employee of the Department of  
13 Environmental Protection.

14 (2) The Chairman of the Pennsylvania Public Utility  
15 Commission or a designee, who shall be appointed by the  
16 Chairman of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

17 (3) Four members of the General Assembly, who shall be  
18 appointed no later than 21 days after the effective date of  
19 this section, as follows:

20 (i) One member shall be appointed by the President  
21 pro tempore of the Senate.

22 (ii) One member shall be appointed by the Minority  
23 Leader of the Senate.

24 (iii) One member shall be appointed by the Speaker  
25 of the House of Representatives.

26 (iv) One member shall be appointed by the Minority  
27 Leader of the House of Representatives.

28 (4) Three representatives of the oil and gas or LNG  
29 industries, who shall be employees of a company that deals  
30 with oil and gas or LNG in this Commonwealth or a trade

1 organization for oil and gas or LNG in this Commonwealth. No  
2 later than 21 days after the effective date of this section,  
3 the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of  
4 the House of Representatives shall jointly submit a list of  
5 at least six individuals who qualify for appointment to the  
6 task force under this paragraph to the Governor. The Governor  
7 shall appoint the three members under this paragraph from the  
8 list within 14 days of receipt of the list.

9 (5) One representative of the Port of Philadelphia. No  
10 later than 21 days after the effective date of this section,  
11 the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of  
12 the House of Representatives shall jointly submit a list of  
13 at least three individuals who qualify for appointment to the  
14 task force under this paragraph to the Governor. The Governor  
15 shall appoint the member under this paragraph from the list  
16 within 14 days of receipt of the list.

17 (6) One representative of the Philadelphia Building  
18 Trades. No later than 21 days after the effective date of  
19 this section, the President pro tempore of the Senate and the  
20 Speaker of the House of Representatives shall jointly submit  
21 a list of at least three individuals who qualify for  
22 appointment to the task force under this paragraph to the  
23 Governor. The Governor shall appoint the member under this  
24 paragraph from the list within 14 days of receipt of the  
25 list.

26 (b) Chairperson.--The member under subsection (a) (3) (iii)  
27 shall act as chairperson of the task force until a chairperson  
28 is selected by a majority vote of the task force at the first  
29 meeting of the task force. The member under subsection (a) (3)  
30 (iii) shall set the date and time of the first meeting of the

1 task force.

2 (c) Alternates.--Each member of the task force may designate  
3 an alternate to attend meetings of the task force, participate  
4 in votes of the task force or engage in other task force actions  
5 on each member's behalf.

6 (d) Appointments.--If the Governor fails to timely appoint a  
7 member under subsection (a) (4), (5) or (6), the Speaker of the  
8 House of Representatives shall make the appointment.

9 (e) Quorum.--The presence of five members of the task force  
10 at a meeting shall constitute a quorum of the task force.

11 (f) Majority vote.--An action of the task force shall be  
12 authorized or ratified by a majority vote of the task force. The  
13 members under subsection (a) (1) and (2) shall be nonvoting  
14 members of the task force and the presence of the members at a  
15 meeting of the task force shall not count toward the quorum  
16 under subsection (e).

17 (g) Meetings.--The task force shall commence at least three  
18 meetings within one year after the effective date of this  
19 section. The task force shall commence its first meeting within  
20 75 days after the effective date of this section. The  
21 chairperson of the task force may commence additional meetings  
22 as the chairperson deems necessary. A member of the task force  
23 who is not physically present at a meeting of the task force may  
24 participate in the meeting by teleconference or video  
25 conference.

26 (h) Compensation.--Members of the task force shall not  
27 receive compensation for their services as members of the task  
28 force.

29 Section 6. Duties of task force.

30 The task force shall have the following duties:

1           (1) Identify and examine the existing obstacles  
2 preventing the Port of Philadelphia from becoming an LNG  
3 export terminal.

4           (2) Identify industry partners who are able to assist in  
5 making the Port of Philadelphia an LNG export terminal.

6           (3) Develop a plan of action for making the Port of  
7 Philadelphia an LNG export terminal.

8           (4) Hold public meetings to effectuate the task force's  
9 duties under this section.

10           (5) Issue a report in accordance with section 7.  
11 Section 7. Report.

12           (a) Submission.--No later than one year after the effective  
13 date of this section, the task force shall prepare and submit a  
14 final report on the task force's activities, findings and  
15 recommendations to the Governor, the Senate and the House of  
16 Representatives.

17           (b) Adoption of report.--The task force shall adopt the  
18 final report under subsection (a) at a public meeting.

19           (c) Public record.--The final report under subsection (a)  
20 shall be a public record under the act of February 14, 2008  
21 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law.

22 Section 8. Effective date.

23           This act shall take effect immediately.