

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 557 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY COMMITTEE AND FONTANA, APRIL 13, 2021

REFERRED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT, APRIL 13, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805, No.247), entitled
 2 "An act to empower cities of the second class A, and third
 3 class, boroughs, incorporated towns, townships of the first
 4 and second classes including those within a county of the
 5 second class and counties of the second through eighth
 6 classes, individually or jointly, to plan their development
 7 and to govern the same by zoning, subdivision and land
 8 development ordinances, planned residential development and
 9 other ordinances, by official maps, by the reservation of
 10 certain land for future public purpose and by the acquisition
 11 of such land; to promote the conservation of energy through
 12 the use of planning practices and to promote the effective
 13 utilization of renewable energy sources; providing for the
 14 establishment of planning commissions, planning departments,
 15 planning committees and zoning hearing boards, authorizing
 16 them to charge fees, make inspections and hold public
 17 hearings; providing for mediation; providing for transferable
 18 development rights; providing for appropriations, appeals to
 19 courts and penalties for violations; and repealing acts and
 20 parts of acts," in zoning, providing for prohibiting the
 21 location of advertising signs in certain locations.

22 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 23 hereby enacts as follows:

24 Section 1. The act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805, No.247), known
 25 as the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, is amended by
 26 adding a section to read:

27 Section 622. Prohibiting the Location of Advertising Signs
 28 in Certain Locations.--(a) Notwithstanding any other provision

1 of law, an off-premises advertising sign may not be located less
2 than 1,000 feet from the property line of an existing school,
3 public playground, public park, residential housing area, child-
4 care facility, church, meetinghouse or other actual place of
5 regularly stated religious worship unless, by majority vote of
6 the governing body for the municipality, the governing body
7 gives necessary approvals.

8 (b) At least 14 days prior to the governing body voting on
9 whether to allow an off-premises advertising sign less than
10 1,000 feet from the property line of a school, public
11 playground, public park, residential housing area, child-care
12 facility, church, meetinghouse or other actual place of
13 regularly stated religious worship, one or more public hearings
14 shall be held within the municipality following public notice.
15 All owners of real property located within 1,000 feet of the
16 location of the proposed off-premises advertising sign shall be
17 provided written notice of the public hearing at least 30 days
18 before the hearing is convened.

19 (c) As used in this section, the term "off-premises
20 advertising sign" shall mean an outdoor sign that is 32 square
21 feet or larger and on which space is leased or rented by the
22 owner of the sign to others for the purpose of conveying a
23 commercial or noncommercial message.

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