

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1701 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY CUTLER, BRIGGS, CREIGHTON, FLECK, GRELL,
HENNESSEY, KORTZ, MILLER AND ROSS, JUNE 21, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, JUNE 21, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
17 and commissions; and prescribing the manner in which the
18 number and compensation of the deputies and all other
19 assistants and employes of certain departments, boards and
20 commissions shall be determined," providing for the State
21 Geospatial Coordinating Council.

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

24 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
25 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a
26 section to read:

27 Section 432.1. State Geospatial Coordinating Council.--(a)

1 The State Geospatial Coordinating Council shall be an advisory
2 board within the Governor's Office with the same status under
3 this act as that of advisory boards. The council is established
4 to provide advice and recommendations to the Governor and the
5 citizens of this Commonwealth on geospatial issues, providing
6 for uniformity, data standards, coordination and the efficiency
7 of geospatial policy and technology issues among Federal, State
8 and local government agencies, academic institutions and the
9 private sector.

10 (b) The State Geospatial Coordinating Council shall consist
11 of the following members:

12 (1) Nine members designated by the Governor from among the
13 citizens of this Commonwealth who shall include:

14 (i) One member shall be a representative of the judicial
15 branch.

16 (ii) One member shall be a county commissioner at the time
17 of appointment.

18 (iii) One member shall be a local elected official
19 representing an urban or suburban Pennsylvania community.

20 (iv) One member shall be a local elected official
21 representing a rural Pennsylvania community.

22 (v) One member shall be from an accredited institution of
23 higher education in this Commonwealth.

24 (vi) One member shall be a member of the Pennsylvania
25 Society of Land Surveyors.

26 (vii) One member shall be a member of the Pennsylvania
27 Municipal Authorities Association.

28 (viii) Two members shall derive part of their livelihood
29 from geospatial-related activities or otherwise be actively
30 involved in geospatial activities in the private sector.

1 (2) One member designated by the President pro tempore of
2 the Senate.

3 (3) One member designated by the Minority Leader of the
4 Senate.

5 (4) One member designated by the Speaker of the House of
6 Representatives.

7 (5) One member designated by the Minority Leader of the
8 House of Representatives.

9 (6) One member designated by the Pennsylvania One Call
10 System.

11 (7) One member designated by the Pennsylvania chapter of the
12 Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors.

13 (8) One member designated by the County GIS Professional
14 Association.

15 (9) One member designated by the Pennsylvania Mapping and
16 Geographic Consortium.

17 (10) One member designated by the County Commissioners
18 Association of Pennsylvania.

19 (11) One member designated by the County Planning Directors
20 Association of Pennsylvania.

21 The members of the council shall include persons knowledgeable
22 in the fields related to geographic information systems, such as
23 geospatial technology, data development, architecture standards,
24 data sharing, county government, local government, municipal
25 planning and municipal authorities. The appointees shall serve
26 at the pleasure of the appointing authority. The members
27 appointed by the Governor shall not hold any other office in the
28 executive branch for which a salary is paid.

29 (c) The council shall also include the following nonvoting
30 ex officio members or their designees:

1 (1) The Secretary of Administration.
2 (2) The Secretary of Environmental Protection.
3 (3) The Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources.
4 (4) The Director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management
5 Agency or a successor agency.

6 (5) The Secretary of Transportation.
7 (6) The Commonwealth's representative from the United States
8 Geological Survey.

9 (7) The executive director of Pennsylvania Spatial Data
10 Access.

11 (d) The terms of office of those members appointed by the
12 Governor shall be for four years and until their successors are
13 appointed and have qualified. In case of a vacancy, the Governor
14 shall make an appointment for the unexpired portion of the term.
15 An organizational designee shall serve a term of three years. In
16 the case of a vacancy, the appropriate organization shall
17 provide a designee for the unexpired portion of the term.

18 (e) The Governor shall designate the chairperson and vice-
19 chairperson of the council from among the members of the
20 council, other than the ex officio and legislative members. The
21 council shall meet not less than four times yearly. Additional
22 meetings shall be at the discretion of the chairperson. Eleven
23 members of the council shall constitute a quorum.

24 (f) The members of the council shall serve without
25 compensation but shall be entitled to receive travel and other
26 reasonable expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties.
27 The council may, with the approval of the Governor, appoint and
28 fix the compensation of an executive director who shall be
29 technically qualified for the duties of the office and who shall
30 act as secretary of the council and conduct the work of the

1 council under its supervision.

2 (g) The council shall have the power to employ and fix the
3 compensation of such experts, stenographers and assistants as
4 may be deemed necessary to carry out the work on the council,
5 but due diligence shall be exercised by the council to enlist
6 such voluntary assistance as may be available from citizens,
7 research organizations and other agencies in this Commonwealth
8 or elsewhere, generally recognized as qualified to aid the
9 council.

10 (h) The council shall have the following powers and duties:

11 (1) Recommend data development priorities and
12 interoperability standards for data sharing across agencies and
13 different units of government across this Commonwealth.

14 (2) Monitor national and State trends, identify issues of
15 potential interest and concern to the Commonwealth and prepare
16 for the Governor and the General Assembly on an annual basis, or
17 more often if necessary, reports detailing the findings of the
18 council.

19 (3) Develop strategic plans and programs to promote and
20 enhance the development and deployment of geographic information
21 systems and geospatial technology investments in this
22 Commonwealth and make such recommendations to the Governor as
23 the council deems proper and advisable.

24 (4) Develop task forces by issue to formulate recommended
25 positions or actions. The task force membership may be comprised
26 of council members or designees appointed by the council. The
27 council shall consider any task force recommendations at its
28 next meeting.

29 (5) Gather information and input from Federal, State and
30 local government officials, private business and citizens in

1 this Commonwealth as part of the process of developing strategic
2 plans and programs.

3 (i) The Pennsylvania Mapping and Geospatial Technologies
4 Fund is established in the State Treasury.

5 (1) Moneys from the fund shall be used for administrative
6 and personnel costs of the council and its staff as expressed in
7 the general and discretionary powers of the council.

8 (2) The fund shall consist of public and private grants,
9 donations, State appropriations and contributions from members
10 of the council and from foundations, and other private and
11 governmental entities.

12 (3) The fund shall receive and accept grants, appropriations
13 aid or contributions, from any source, of money, property or
14 labor or other things of value to be held, used and applied to
15 carry out the purposes of this act, subject to the conditions
16 upon which grants and contributions may be made under section
17 513, including, but not limited to, gifts or grants from any
18 department or agency of the United States or the Commonwealth.

19 (4) The State Treasurer shall invest the moneys in the fund
20 not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the
21 same manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that
22 accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

23 (5) Money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal
24 year shall remain in the fund and shall not lapse to the General
25 Fund.

26 (j) The Office of Administration shall provide assistance to
27 the council as requested by the chairperson of the council.

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