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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**SENATE BILL**

No. **610**

Session of  
1961

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MR. McMENAMIN, IN PLACE, MAY 3, 1961.

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AS AMENDED ON THIRD READING, JULY 6, 1961.

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**AN ACT**

Amending the act of August 9 1955 (P L 323) entitled "An act relating to counties of the third fourth fifth sixth seventh and eighth classes amending revising consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto" further providing for change in classification of counties upon change in population

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows

EXPLANATION—CAPITAL LETTERS indicate new matter added to bill. Matter stricken through is to be omitted from bill. Underscoring indicates new matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

1 Section 1 Section 211 act of August 9 1955 (P L 323) known as  
2 "The County Code" is amended to read

3 Section 211 Ascertainment Certification and Effect of Change of

4 Class (a) The classification of counties shall be ascertained and fixed

5 according to their population by reference from time to time to the

6 [last two preceding] decennial United States {census} ~~censuses~~ AS

7 HEREINAFTER PROVIDED deducting therefrom the number of

8 persons residing on any lands that have been ceded to the United States

9 (b) Whenever it shall appear by any such {census} ~~two censuses~~

10 that any county has attained a population entitling it to an advance

11 in classification or WHENEVER IT SHALL APPEAR BY THE

12 LAST TWO PRECEDING CENSUSES that a county has heretofore

13 or hereafter decreased in population so as to recede in classification

14 as herein prescribed it shall be the duty of the Governor under the

15 great seal of this Commonwealth to certify that fact accordingly to

16 the board of county commissioners on or before the first day of October

17 of the year succeeding that in which the census was taken or as soon

18 thereafter as may be which certificate shall be forwarded by the com-

19 missioners to the recorder of deeds and be recorded in his office

1       It is the intent of this section that the classification of any county  
2 shall not be changed because its population has ~~changed~~ DECREASED  
3 at the time of one United States decennial census because it is recog-  
4 nized that a change in the form of local government is attended by  
5 certain expense and hardship and such change should not be occasioned  
6 by a temporary fluctuation in population but rather only after it is  
7 demonstrated by two censuses that the population of a county has re-  
8 mained below the minimum figure ~~or above the maximum~~ figure of its  
9 class for at least a decade

10       (c) Changes of class ascertained and certified as aforesaid shall  
11 become effective on the first day of January next following the year in  
12 which the change was so certified by the Governor to the county com-  
13 missioners but the salaries of county officers shall not thereby be in-  
14 creased or decreased during the term for which they shall have been  
15 elected In the municipal election following such certification of change  
16 of class and preceding the effective date of such change the proper  
17 number of persons shall be elected to fill any elective office which will  
18 exist in the county by the change of classification certified No election  
19 shall be held for any office which will be abolished as a result of such  
20 change of classification

We certify that this bill has passed the Senate and the House of Representatives.

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Chief Clerk, Senate

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President pro tempore, Senate

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Speaker, House of Representatives

Approved The ..... day of ..... A. D. 1901.

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Governor