

No. 81

AN ACT

Creating a temporary advisory commission to examine, report upon and recommend reorganizations of agencies and functions of the State government; prescribing its powers and duties; directing cooperation of governmental agencies; and authorizing the issuance of subpoenas.

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

Policy.

Section 1. Declaration of Policy.—It is hereby declared to be the policy of the General Assembly to promote economy, efficiency and improved service in the transaction of the public business in the departments, bureaus, agencies, boards, commissions, offices, independent establishments and instrumentalities of the executive branch of the government by—

(1) recommending methods and procedures for reducing expenditures to the lowest amount consistent with the efficient performance of essential services, activities and functions,

(2) eliminating duplication and overlapping of services, activities and functions.

(3) consolidating services, activities and functions of a similar nature,

(4) abolishing services, activities and functions not necessary to the efficient conduct of government,

(5) eliminating nonessential services, functions and activities which are competitive with private enterprise,

(6) defining responsibilities of officials and

(7) relocating agencies now responsible directly to the Governor in departments or other agencies.

Establishment of the Commission on Governmental Reorganization.

Section 2. Establishment of the Commission on Governmental Reorganization.—For the purpose of carrying out the policy set forth in section one of this act there is hereby established a commission to be known as the Commission on Governmental Reorganization, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission".

Membership of the Commission.

Section 3. Membership of the Commission—(a) Number and Appointment. The Commission shall be composed of twelve (12) members all of whom shall be appointed by the Governor.

(b) Vacancies.—Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers but shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

Organization of the Commission.

Section 4. Organization of the Commission.—The Commission shall elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from among its members.

Quorum.

Section 5. Quorum.—Seven (7) members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. Expenses of Members of the Commission.— All members of the Commission shall receive reimbursement for travel, subsistence and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of such duties.

Reimbursement
of expenses of
Members of the
Commission.

Section 7. Staff of the Commission.—(a) The Commission shall have power to appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel as it deems advisable without regard to the provisions of the civil service laws and the classification laws.

Staff of the
Commission.

(b) The Commission may procure without regard to the civil service laws and the classification laws temporary and intermittent services.

Section 8. Duties of the Commission.—(a) Investigation. The Commission shall study and investigate the present organization and methods of operation of all departments, bureaus, agencies, boards, commissions, offices, independent establishments and instrumentalities of the government, except the Judiciary and the General Assembly, to determine what changes therein are necessary in their opinion to accomplish the purposes set forth in section one of this act.

Duties of the
Commission.

(b) Report. The Commission shall submit interim reports at such time or times as the Commission deems necessary and shall submit its final report to the General Assembly on or before the thirty-first day of December, one thousand nine hundred fifty-six, at which date the Commission shall cease to exist. The final Report of the Commission may propose such constitutional amendments, legislative enactments and administrative actions as in its judgment are necessary to carry out its recommendations.

Section 9. Powers of the Commission.—(a) Hearings and Sessions. The Commission, or on the authorization of the Commission any subcommittee or member thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and places, administer such oaths and require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers and documents as the Commission or such subcommittee or member may deem advisable. Subpoenas may be issued under the signature of the Chairman of the Commission or such subcommittee or any duly designated member and may be served by any person designated by such Chairman or member.

Powers of the
Commission.

(b) Obtaining Official Data.—The Commission is authorized to secure directly from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, independent establishment or instrumentality information,

suggestions, estimates and statistics for the purpose of this act and each such department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, establishment or instrumentality is authorized and directed to furnish such information, suggestions, estimates and statistics directly to the Commission upon request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

Act effective immediately.

Section 10. Effective Date.—The provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment.

APPROVED—The 7th day of July, A. D. 1955.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 82

AN ACT

Providing for anthracite mine drainage, contingent on Federal aid, and making an appropriation.

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

Upon availability of Federal funds Commonwealth of Pennsylvania accepts on matching basis for control and drainage of water from anthracite coal mines.

Department of Mines is authorized to perform the necessary work without operating and maintenance costs to the Commonwealth.

Secretary of Mines to report progress of project to Secretary of Interior.

Appropriation.

Section 1. In the event that the Congress of the United States enacts legislation making available Federal moneys on a matching basis for the control and drainage of water from anthracite coal formations, the Commonwealth accepts the grant of Federal aid thereunder subject to the terms and conditions of the grant.

Section 2. In such event the Department of Mines shall construct ditches, flumes, backfill stripping pits and cropfalls, and improve stream beds for the purpose of preventing the flow of surface water into mines, and shall purchase the necessary materials for the same, and also shall purchase and install pumps, pipes, machinery, equipment and materials for the purpose of pumping water from abandoned mines: Provided, however, That the Commonwealth shall not bear any operating and maintenance costs whatsoever and shall not bear the installation costs of any underground facilities.

Section 3. The Secretary of Mines shall furnish to the Secretary of the Interior a statement with respect to the project showing work done, the status of the project, expenditures and amounts obligated, at such times and in such detail, as the Secretary of the Interior shall require.

Section 4. The sum of eight million five hundred thousand dollars (\$8,500,000), or as much thereof as is necessary, is appropriated to the Department of Mines