

AN ACT

To amend sections four, twelve, and sixteen of an act, approved the twentieth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen (Pamphlet Laws, one thousand one hundred and forty-three), entitled "An act relating to free, public, nonsectarian libraries and branch libraries within this Commonwealth; providing for their establishment, maintenance, and regulation, and for the maintenance and regulation of such free, public, nonsectarian libraries as may have been already established by the several counties, cities, boroughs, towns, and townships; and providing that all library property, and all gifts, devises, grants, or endowments for library purposes, shall be exempt from taxation; and providing that the several counties, cities, boroughs, towns, and townships may levy taxes, condemn private property, and borrow money for library purposes; and imposing penalties for injuring library property and for violations of library regulations; and repealing existing laws in relation to the above subjects," extending the referendum process; validating elections heretofore had, and taxes heretofore levied; and extending provisions relating to making reports, and auditing the same.

Libraries.

Section 4 of act of July 20, 1917 (P. L. 1143), amended.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section four of an act, approved the twentieth day of July, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen (Pamphlet Laws, one thousand one hundred and forty-three), entitled "An act relating to free, public, nonsectarian libraries and branch libraries within this Commonwealth; providing for their establishment, maintenance, and regulation; and for the maintenance and regulation of such free, public, nonsectarian libraries as may have been already established by the several counties, cities, boroughs, towns, and townships; and providing that all library property, and all gifts, devises, grants, or endowments for library purposes, shall be exempt from taxation; and providing that the several counties, cities, boroughs, towns, and townships may levy taxes, condemn private property, and borrow money for library purposes; and imposing penalties for injuring library property and for violation of library regulations; and repealing existing laws in relation to the above subjects," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Municipal authorities to submit to electors question of establishing libraries.

Section 4. The municipal authorities of any municipality may submit to the qualified electors of such municipality, at any *general or special* election, the question of establishing or maintaining, or both, a free, public, nonsectarian library, and must submit such question, if petitioned for by three per centum of the voters at the [next] *last* preceding general election. At such election the question of establishing an annual tax at a certain rate, not exceeding two mills on the dollar, on all taxable property of the municipality, shall be submitted and voted upon.

Section 12 amended

Appropriation to libraries otherwise established.

Section 2. That section twelve of the said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 12 (a) Any municipality may make appropriations, not to exceed two mills on the dollar *annually*, on all taxable property in the municipality, to maintain or aid in the maintenance of a free library established [otherwise than under the provisions of sections three,

four, and seven of this act: Provided, That the municipal authorities shall be represented by two members of the board having control of the affairs of said library.] by deed, gift, testamentary provision, or in any manner otherwise than under the provisions of sections three, four, and seven of this act: Provided, That the municipal authorities shall be represented by at least two members of the board having control of the affairs of said library.

(b) *The municipal authorities may submit to the qualified electors of such municipality, at any election, general or special, the question of maintaining or aiding in the maintenance of a library established as specified in clause (a) of this section; and must submit such question, if petitioned for by three per centum of the number of the voters at the last preceding general election. At such election the question of establishing an annual tax at a certain rate, not exceeding two mills on the dollar, on all taxable property of the municipality, shall also be submitted and voted upon.*

(c) *If the majority of votes cast upon this question shall be in favor of establishing such tax rate, the municipal authorities, at the first meeting following the official announcement of the result of such election, shall take the necessary steps to levy and collect such tax, and shall, if the municipality be not already so represented upon the board of control of such library, appoint at least two persons to represent the municipality upon such board, the number to be determined by agreement with the other members of the board, each person so appointed to serve for such term as may then be determined.*

(d) *The rate of tax so voted shall be an annual tax rate, until another vote is taken changing the same: Provided, That the municipal authorities may increase said rate, not to exceed two mills on the dollar in the aggregate, on all taxable property of the municipality, without submitting the question to a vote. The tax shall be levied and collected in like manner as other taxes in the municipality, and shall be in addition to all other taxes, and shall be used for no other purpose than that of maintaining or aiding in the maintenance of a library established as specified in section twelve of this act.*

(e) *Any election heretofore held, and any tax heretofore levied, by any municipality to maintain or aid in the maintenance of a library, established as specified in clause (a) of this section, are hereby ratified, confirmed, and made valid.*

Section 3. That section sixteen of said act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 16. All moneys appropriated for the establishment or maintenance, or both, of a free, public, nonsectarian library, and all moneys, if any, received from other sources for its use, shall be under the exclusive control and shall be disbursed under the direction of the board of library directors, who shall make an annual report to the proper municipal authorities. The accounts of the treasurer of the board of library directors shall be audited as in the case of other municipal expenditures. *The board of control of any library, established as specified in section*

Proviso.

Submission of question to electors.

Question of annual tax.

If vote in favor.

Levy and collection of tax.

Representation.

Tax rate.

Proviso.

Levy and collection.

Use.

Ratification of elections heretofore held.

Section 16 amended

Control of funds.

Report.

Audit of accounts.

twelve of this act, shall make report annually to the proper municipal authorities, of the moneys received by such library from the municipality and the disposition made thereof, and the accounts of the treasurer of said board shall be audited as above provided.

APPROVED—The 4th day of May, A. D. 1927.

JOHN S. FISHER

No. 374

A SUPPLEMENT

To the act, approved the seventeenth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and six (Pamphlet Laws, forty-five), entitled "An act to regulate the deposits of State funds, to prescribe the method of selecting State depositories, to limit the amount of State deposits, to provide for the security of such deposits, to fix the rate of interest thereon, to provide for the publication of monthly statements of moneys in the general and sinking funds, to declare it a misdemeanor to give or take anything of value for obtaining the same, and prescribing penalties for violations of this act," providing for interest reports from State depositories.

State depositories.

Interest.

Interest report.

Penalty for failure to report.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the interest on State deposits in banks, banking institutions, and trust companies, as fixed by existing law, shall become due, semi-annually on the thirtieth day of April and the thirty-first day of October, each year; and it shall be the duty of every such bank, banking institution, and trust company, acting as a State depository, to make an interest report relative to its State deposits to the State Treasurer and Auditor General within thirty days after the dates above set forth. Failure to make such report shall subject the bank, banking institution, or trust company to a penalty of ten per centum of the amount of the interest due for such period, which penalty shall be collected by the Auditor General as debts of like amount are now by law recoverable, and shall be paid into the State Treasury.

APPROVED—The 4th day of May, A. D. 1927.

JOHN S. FISHER