

Section 2. In the construction of said bridge and the approaches thereto, the Department of Highways shall have all of the powers and authority conferred with respect to the relocation, widening or construction of State highways, and any damages sustained by reason of the taking of property in the construction of said bridge and approaches thereto shall be ascertained as provided in the act, approved the first day of June, one thousand nine hundred forty-five (Pamphlet Laws 1242), known as the "State Highway Law" and its amendments.

Powers and authority of Department of Highways.

Ascertainment of damages.

Section 3. The compensation for damages which may be sustained by the owners of property adjacent to the bridge and approaches thereto, as well as the expense of construction and maintenance of said bridge and approaches thereto, shall be borne and paid in such proportions as the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, after due notice and hearing, shall determine, unless such proportions are mutually agreed upon and paid by the interested parties.

Public Utility Commission empowered to fix and determine proportionate shares of cost and maintenance, including compensation for damages.

Section 4. So much money as may be necessary is hereby appropriated from the Motor License Fund for the construction of such bridge and the approaches thereto and for the payment of damages for property taken, injured or destroyed in connection therewith.

Appropriation.

Section 5. The provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment.

Act effective immediately.

APPROVED—The 24th day of August, A. D. 1951.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 343

AN ACT

To add section 15.1 to the act, approved the eighth day of July, one thousand nine hundred forty-one (Pamphlet Laws 298), entitled "An act authorizing the creation of, and providing for, and regulating the maintenance and operation of a county employes' retirement system in counties of the fourth class, imposing certain charges on counties, and fixing penalties," by providing for optional minimum retirement allowances under certain conditions.

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

"Fourth Class County Retirement Law."

Section 1. The act, approved the eighth day of July, one thousand nine hundred forty-one (*Pamphlet Laws 298), entitled "An act authorizing the creation of, and providing for, and regulating the maintenance and operation of a county employes' retirement system in counties of the fourth class, imposing certain charges on

Act of July 8, 1941, P. L. 298, amended by adding after section 15 thereof, a new section 15.1.

* "Pamphlet" in original.

counties, and fixing penalties," is hereby amended by adding, after section 15 thereof, a new section to read as follows:

Section 15.1. Optional Minimum Allowances.—At any time the board by rule may, by increasing the county annuity, authorize the payment of a minimum annual retirement allowance of twelve hundred dollars, payable monthly in the amount of one hundred dollars, to every beneficiary who has retired for superannuation after twenty years' service as a county employe, but no county annuity shall in any case exceed fifty per centum of the average salary.

APPROVED—The 24th day of August, A. D. 1951.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 344

AN ACT

To further amend section 1 of the act, approved the eighth day of June, one thousand eight hundred ninety-three (Pamphlet Laws 344, No. 284), entitled "An act relating to husband and wife, enlarging her capacity to acquire and dispose of property, to sue and be sued, and to make a last will, and enabling them to sue and to testify against each other in certain cases," clarifying the prohibition against a married woman's right to sell real estate without the joinder of her husband.

Married women.

Section 1, act of June 8, 1893, P. L. 344, No. 284, as amended by act of May 17, 1945, P. L. 625, further amended.

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

Section 1. Section 1 of the act, approved the eighth day of June, one thousand eight hundred ninety-three (Pamphlet Laws 344, No. 284), entitled "An act relating to husband and wife, enlarging her capacity to acquire and dispose of property, to sue and be sued, and to make a last will, and enabling them to sue and testify against each other in certain cases," as amended by the act, approved the seventeenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred forty-five (Pamphlet Laws 625), is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Rights of married women to acquire or dispose of property.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That hereafter a married woman shall have the same right and power as a married man to acquire, own, possess, control, use, lease, or mortgage, [sell, or otherwise dispose of] any property of any kind, real, personal or mixed, and either in possession or expectancy, and may exercise the said right and power in the same manner and to the same extent as a married man, *but she may not execute or acknowledge a written instrument conveying her real property unless her husband join in such conveyance.*

When husband's joinder required.

APPROVED—The 24th day of August, A. D. 1951.

JOHN S. FINE