No. 2000-100

AN ACT

SB 1088

Amending the act of July 6, 1989 (P.L.169, No.32), entitled, as amended, "An act providing for the regulation of storage tanks and tank facilities; imposing additional powers and duties on the Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Quality Board; and making an appropriation," reenacting authority for a certain allocation under the Underground Storage Tank Environmental Cleanup Program; and further providing for the upgrade loan program.

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

Section 1. Sections 710(b.2) and 712(b) of the act of July 6, 1989 (P.L.169, No.32), known as the Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act, added January 30, 1998 (P.L.46, No.13), are reenacted and amended to read:

Section 710. Underground Storage Tank Environmental Cleanup Program.

(b.2) Additional allocation.—No more than \$500,000 of the annual allocation for the Underground Storage Tank Environmental Cleanup Program may be used for costs of corrective action to assist owners of underground storage tanks with a capacity of 3,000 gallons or less used for storing heating oil for consumption on the premises where stored. [Payments authorized under this subsection may be made only for releases occurring on or after the effective date of this subsection.] Payments made for eligible releases shall be limited in amount to the actual costs of corrective action or to \$5,000, whichever is less. The amount allowed shall be subject to a \$1,000 deductible which shall be paid first by the claimant. This subsection shall expire [two years from the effective date of this subsection] June 30, 2005. On or before that date, the board shall make a report to the General Assembly with recommendations. The board may promulgate regulations to carry out the provisions of this subsection.

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Section 712. Upgrade Loan Program.

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(b) Eligibility.—Such loans shall be made available to owners of six or fewer regulated underground storage tanks for the purpose of upgrading or removing their storage tanks. Any portion of the annual availability of funds not committed to such owners within 90 days of the effective date of this section and thereafter within [90] 120 days of July 1 in any fiscal year may be awarded to any owner of any number of regulated underground storage tanks that meet the remaining requirements of this section.

Section 2. The reenactment and amendment of section 710(b.2) of the act shall apply retroactively to February 1, 2000.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 20th day of December, A.D. 2000.

THOMAS J. RIDGE