THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2429 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY KAUFFMAN, M. K. KELLER, LUCAS, SAYLOR, TOPPER, CALTAGIRONE, KAMPF, ELLIS, MARSICO, C. HARRIS, GRELL, GINGRICH, DENLINGER, MURT, ROCK, REGAN, HENNESSEY AND BENNINGHOFF, AUGUST 5, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, AUGUST 5, 2014

AN ACT

Amending the act of October 6, 1998 (P.L.705, No.92), entitled, 1 as amended, "An act providing for the creation of keystone opportunity zones and keystone opportunity expansion zones to foster economic opportunities in this Commonwealth, to facilitate economic development, stimulate industrial, 5 commercial and residential improvements and prevent physical 6 and infrastructure deterioration of geographic areas within 7 this Commonwealth; authorizing expenditures; providing tax exemptions, tax deductions, tax abatements and tax credits; 9 creating additional obligations of the Commonwealth and local 10 governmental units; and prescribing powers and duties of 11 certain State and local departments, agencies and officials," 12 13 providing for keystone opportunity expansion zones for job creation; and imposing duties on the Department of Community 14 and Economic Development. 15 16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 17 hereby enacts as follows: 18 Section 1. The act of October 6, 1998 (P.L.705, No.92), known as the Keystone Opportunity Zone, Keystone Opportunity 19 Expansion Zone and Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone Act, is 20 21 amended by adding a section to read: 22 Section 301.8. Keystone opportunity expansion zones for job 23 creation.

- 1 (a) Establishment. -- In addition to any designations under
- 2 <u>section 301.1, the department may designate up to ten additional</u>
- 3 <u>keystone opportunity expansion zones that will create new jobs</u>
- 4 <u>in accordance with this section. Each additional keystone</u>
- 5 opportunity expansion zone shall:
- 6 (1) Not be less than ten acres in size unless contiquous
- 7 <u>to an existing zone.</u>
- 8 (2) Not exceed in the aggregate a total of 400 acres.
- 9 <u>(3) Be comprised of parcels that are deteriorated,</u>
- 10 <u>underutilized or unoccupied on the effective date of this</u>
- 11 <u>section</u>.
- 12 (b) Authorization. -- A person or business within a keystone
- 13 opportunity expansion zone authorized under subsection (a) shall
- 14 be entitled to the tax exemptions, deductions, abatements or
- 15 <u>credits set forth under this act, exemptions for sales and use</u>
- 16 tax under section 511(a) or 705(a), for a period of no more than
- 17 ten years and no less than five years. For a keystone
- 18 opportunity expansion zone that will create new jobs and is
- 19 <u>established under subsection (a), the authorized period shall</u>
- 20 begin on July 1, 2015. An exemption for sales and use taxes
- 21 under sections 511 and 705 shall commence upon designation of
- 22 the zone by the department.
- 23 (c) Application and review.--In order to receive a
- 24 <u>designation under subsection (a), the department must receive an</u>
- 25 application from a political subdivision or its designee no
- 26 <u>later than March 1, 2015. The application must contain the</u>
- 27 <u>information required under section 302(a)(1), (2)(i) and (ix)</u>
- 28 and (6). The application must include the ordinances,
- 29 resolutions or other required action adopted by the political
- 30 <u>subdivisions in which the keystone opportunity expansion zone is</u>

- 1 <u>located</u>. The department, in consultation with the Department of
- 2 Revenue, shall review the application and, if approved, issue a
- 3 <u>certification of the tax exemptions, deductions, abatements or</u>
- 4 <u>credits under this act for the keystone opportunity expansion</u>
- 5 zone within three months of receipt of the application. The
- 6 <u>department shall act on an application for a designation under</u>
- 7 section 304(a)(10) by June 30, 2015. The department may make a
- 8 <u>designation under this section on a rolling basis during the</u>
- 9 <u>application period</u>.
- 10 (d) Notice. -- Upon designation under this section, the
- 11 department shall immediately notify a political subdivision
- 12 <u>located within the area designated.</u>
- 13 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.