

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 249 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY WARD, RAFFERTY, SCARNATI, MCGARRIGLE, BARTOLOTTA, LANGERHOLC, TARTAGLIONE, KILLION, YUDICHAK, SCHWANK, FOLMER, BAKER, COSTA, STEFANO, HUTCHINSON, MARTIN, REGAN AND TOMLINSON, JANUARY 27, 2017

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, JANUARY 27, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 21, 1937 (P.L.774, No.211), entitled "An  
 2 act to facilitate vehicular traffic between the eastern and  
 3 western sections of the Commonwealth by providing for the  
 4 construction, operation and maintenance of a turnpike from a  
 5 point at or near Middlesex in Cumberland County to a point at  
 6 or near Irwin in Westmoreland County; providing for the  
 7 creation of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, and  
 8 conferring powers and imposing duties on said commission;  
 9 authorizing the issuance of turnpike revenue bonds of the  
 10 Commonwealth, payable solely from tolls, to pay the cost of  
 11 such turnpike; providing that no debt of the Commonwealth  
 12 shall be incurred in the exercise of any of the powers  
 13 granted by this act; providing for the collection of tolls  
 14 for the payment of such bonds and for the cost of  
 15 maintenance, operation and repair of the turnpike; making  
 16 such bonds exempt from taxation; constituting such bonds  
 17 legal investments in certain instances; prescribing  
 18 conditions upon which such turnpike shall become free;  
 19 providing for condemnation; granting certain powers and  
 20 authority to municipal subdivisions and agencies of the  
 21 Commonwealth to cooperate with the commission; and  
 22 authorizing the issuance of turnpike revenue refunding  
 23 bonds," further providing for emergency vehicles.

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

26 Section 1. Section 5.3 of the act of May 21, 1937 (P.L.774,  
 27 No.211), referred to as the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission

1 Act, is amended to read:

2 Section 5.3. [Emergency vehicles while on an emergency call  
3 and while] (a) The following vehicles shall be granted  
4 immediate entrance to and exit from any turnpike or highway  
5 under the supervision and control of the commission, and shall  
6 not be required to stop at a toll booth for any other reason,  
7 except on order of a member of the Pennsylvania State Police for  
8 a legitimate law enforcement function:

9 (1) An emergency vehicle displaying audible and visual  
10 signals as required by and in accordance with 75 Pa.C.S. § 4571  
11 (relating to visual and audible signals on emergency vehicles)[,  
12 shall be granted immediate entrance to and exit from any  
13 turnpike or highway under the supervision and control of the  
14 commission, and no such emergency vehicle shall be required to  
15 stop at a toll booth or for any other reason except on order of  
16 a member of the Pennsylvania State Police for a legitimate law  
17 enforcement function.]\_

18 (2) A vehicle carrying or escorting a firefighter, ambulance  
19 service or rescue squad member, law enforcement officer or armed  
20 service member killed in the line of duty.

21 (b) The commission shall not collect or attempt to collect  
22 tolls for travel on any part of the turnpike or highway under  
23 its supervision, including slip ramps, from an emergency vehicle  
24 granted immediate access under subsection (a).

25 (c) The commission shall notify all employees of the  
26 commission who are assigned duties of toll booths of the  
27 provisions of this section.

28 (d) As used in this section, the term "emergency vehicle"  
29 shall be defined as provided in 75 Pa.C.S. § 102 (relating to  
30 definitions).

1 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.