

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE BILL

No. 360 Session of  
2019

---

INTRODUCED BY HUGHES, HAYWOOD, FARNESE, MUTH, LEACH, SCHWANK,  
COSTA, BREWSTER, TARTAGLIONE, KEARNEY AND KILLION,  
MAY 31, 2019

---

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, MAY 31, 2019

---

AN ACT

1 Providing for the study of intergenerational poverty;  
2 establishing the intergenerational poverty tracking system,  
3 the Interagency Workgroup on Poverty and Economic Insecurity  
4 and the Pennsylvania Commission on Poverty Elimination and  
5 Economic Security; and providing for a strategic plan, for  
6 reports and for duties of the Department of Human Services  
7 and the Secretary of the Budget.

8 TABLE OF CONTENTS

9 Chapter 1. Preliminary Provisions

10 Section 101. Short title.

11 Section 102. Definitions.

12 Chapter 3. Intergenerational Poverty

13 Section 301. Intergenerational poverty tracking system.

14 Section 302. Interagency Workgroup on Poverty and Economic  
15 Insecurity.

16 Section 303. Powers and duties.

17 Section 304. Report.

18 Chapter 5. Poverty Elimination and Economic Security Strategic  
19 Planning

20 Section 501. The Pennsylvania Commission on Poverty Elimination

1 and Economic Security.  
2 Section 502. Strategic plan to address poverty and economic  
3 insecurity.

4 Section 503. Commission reports.

5 Section 504. Duties of the Secretary of the Budget.

6 Chapter 7. Miscellaneous Provisions

7 Section 701. (Reserved).

8 Section 702. (Reserved).

9 Section 703. Effective date.

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

12 CHAPTER 1

13 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

14 Section 101. Short title.

15 This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
16 Intergenerational Poverty Act.

17 Section 102. Definitions.

18 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
19 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
20 context clearly indicates otherwise:

21 "Antipoverty program." A program with the primary goal of  
22 lifting individuals out of poverty and improving economic  
23 opportunities for individuals that operates, in whole or in  
24 part, utilizing Federal or State money.

25 "Asset poverty." The inability of an individual to access  
26 wealth resources sufficient to provide for basic needs for a  
27 period of three months.

28 "Child." An individual who is under 18 years of age.

29 "Commission." The Pennsylvania Commission on Poverty  
30 Elimination and Economic Security established under section

1 501(a).

2 "Commonwealth poverty measure." A uniform method for  
3 measuring poverty in this Commonwealth that considers indicators  
4 and measures, other than traditional income-based measures of  
5 poverty, that provide a detailed picture of low-income and  
6 poverty populations and meaningfully account for other factors  
7 contributing to poverty and may include:

8 (1) access to health care, housing, proper nutrition and  
9 quality education;

10 (2) the number of individuals kept out of poverty by  
11 government supports;

12 (3) the number of individuals who are impoverished due  
13 to medical expenses, child-care expenses or work expenses;

14 (4) the rates of food insecurity;

15 (5) the number of individuals in asset poverty;

16 (6) the number of disconnected youth;

17 (7) the teen birth rate;

18 (8) the participation rate in Federal and State anti-  
19 poverty programs for all eligible populations;

20 (9) the number of individuals who do not use a bank or  
21 similar financial institution;

22 (10) regional differences in costs-of-living;

23 (11) income necessary to achieve economic security and a  
24 livable standard of living in different regions of this  
25 Commonwealth;

26 (12) the impact of rising income inequality;

27 (13) the impact of the digital divide; and

28 (14) the impact of trauma on intergenerational poverty.

29 "Cycle of poverty." The set of factors or events by which  
30 the long-term poverty of an individual is likely to continue and

1 be experienced by each child of the individual when the child  
2 becomes an adult unless there is outside intervention.

3 "Deep poverty." An economic condition where an individual or  
4 family has a total annual income that is less than 50% of the  
5 Federal poverty level for the individual or family as provided  
6 in the annual report of the United States Census Bureau on  
7 Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Coverage in the United  
8 States.

9 "Department." The Department of Human Services of the  
10 Commonwealth.

11 "Deprivation." A lack of adequate nutrition, health care,  
12 housing or other resources to provide for basic needs.

13 "Digital divide." The gap between individuals, households,  
14 businesses and geographic areas at different socioeconomic  
15 levels related to access to information and communication  
16 technologies, including the imbalance in physical access to  
17 technology and the resources, education and skills needed to  
18 effectively use computer technology and the Internet for a wide  
19 variety of activities.

20 "Disconnected youth." Individuals who are 16 years of age to  
21 25 years of age who are unemployed and not enrolled in school.

22 "Disparate impact." The historic and ongoing impacts of the  
23 pattern and practice of discrimination in employment, education,  
24 housing, banking and other aspects of life in the economy,  
25 society or culture that have an adverse impact on minorities,  
26 women or other protected groups, regardless of whether those  
27 practices are motivated by discriminatory intent.

28 "Economic insecurity." The inability to cope with routine  
29 adverse or costly life events and recover from the costly  
30 consequences of those events and the lack of economic means to

1 maintain an adequate standard of living.

2 "Economic security." Having access to the economic means and  
3 support necessary to effectively cope with adverse or costly  
4 life events and recover from the consequences of such events  
5 while maintaining an adequate standard of living.

6 "Intergenerational poverty." Poverty in which two or more  
7 successive generations of a family continue in the cycle of  
8 poverty and government dependence. The term shall not include  
9 situational poverty.

10 "Outcome." A change in the economic status, economic  
11 instability or economic security of an individual, household or  
12 other population that is attributable to a planned intervention,  
13 benefit, service or series of interventions, benefits and  
14 services, regardless of whether the intervention, benefit or  
15 service was intended to change the economic status, economic  
16 stability or economic security.

17 "Poverty." An economic condition in which an individual or  
18 family has a total annual income that is less than the Federal  
19 poverty level for the individual or family, as provided in the  
20 report of the United States Census Bureau on Income, Poverty and  
21 Health Insurance Coverage in the United States.

22 "Regional cost of living." A measure of the costs of  
23 maintaining an adequate standard of living in differing  
24 regional, geographic, urban or rural regions of this  
25 Commonwealth.

26 "Situational poverty." Temporary poverty that meets all of  
27 the following:

28 (1) Is generally traceable to a specific incident or  
29 time period within the lifetime of an individual.

30 (2) Is not continued to the next generation.

1 "Strategic plan." The plan provided for under section 502.

2 "System." The Intergenerational Poverty Tracking System  
3 established under section 301(a).

4 "Two-generation approach." An approach to breaking the cycle  
5 of intergenerational poverty by improving family economic  
6 security through programs that create opportunities for and  
7 address the needs of parents and children together.

8 "Workgroup." The Interagency Workgroup on Poverty and  
9 Economic Insecurity established under section 302.

10 CHAPTER 3

11 INTERGENERATIONAL POVERTY

12 Section 301. Intergenerational poverty tracking system.

13 (a) Establishment.--The department shall establish and  
14 maintain a data system to track intergenerational poverty.

15 (b) System requirements.--The system shall have the ability  
16 to do all of the following:

17 (1) Identify groups that have a high risk of  
18 experiencing intergenerational poverty.

19 (2) Identify incidents, patterns and trends that explain  
20 or contribute to intergenerational poverty.

21 (3) Gather and track available local, State and national  
22 data on all of the following:

23 (i) Official poverty rates.

24 (ii) Child poverty rates.

25 (iii) Years spent by an individual in childhood  
26 poverty.

27 (iv) Years spent by an individual in adult poverty.

28 (v) Related poverty information.

29 (c) Duties of department.--The department shall do all of  
30 the following:

1 (1) Use available data in the system, including public  
2 assistance data, census data and other data made available to  
3 the department, to track intergenerational poverty.

4 (2) Develop and implement methods to integrate, compare,  
5 analyze and validate the data for the purposes described  
6 under subsection (b).

7 (3) Protect the privacy of an individual living in  
8 poverty by using and distributing data within the system in  
9 compliance with Federal and State laws.

10 (4) Include in the report required under section 304, a  
11 summary of the data, findings and potential additional uses  
12 of the system.

13 Section 302. Interagency Workgroup on Poverty and Economic  
14 Insecurity.

15 (a) Establishment.--The Interagency Workgroup on Poverty and  
16 Economic Insecurity is established.

17 (b) Membership.--The workgroup shall be comprised of the  
18 following members:

19 (1) The Secretary of Human Services, or a designee who  
20 is a deputy secretary or the equivalent within the  
21 department, who shall serve as chair.

22 (2) The Secretary of Labor and Industry, or a designee  
23 who is a deputy secretary or the equivalent within the  
24 Department of Labor and Industry.

25 (3) The Secretary of Education, or a designee who is a  
26 deputy secretary or the equivalent within the Department of  
27 Education.

28 (4) The Secretary of Health, or a designee who is a  
29 deputy secretary or the equivalent within the Department of  
30 Health.

1 (5) The Secretary of Community and Economic Development,  
2 or a designee who is a deputy secretary or the equivalent  
3 within the Department of Community and Economic Development.

4 (6) The Secretary of Aging, or a designee who shall be a  
5 deputy secretary or the equivalent within the Department of  
6 Aging.

7 (7) The Secretary of Corrections, or a designee who  
8 shall be a deputy secretary or the equivalent within the  
9 Department of Corrections.

10 (8) The Secretary of Agriculture, or designee who shall  
11 be a deputy secretary or the equivalent within the Department  
12 of Agriculture.

13 (9) The Secretary of the Budget, or a designee.

14 (c) Meetings.--The workgroup shall meet no less than four  
15 times a year.

16 Section 303. Powers and duties.

17 The workgroup shall have the following powers and duties:

18 (1) To collaborate in sharing and analyzing information  
19 and data for all of the following purposes:

20 (i) Understanding the root causes of poverty and  
21 economic insecurity, including contributing social,  
22 economic and cultural factors.

23 (ii) Understanding and addressing intergenerational  
24 poverty by:

25 (A) Identifying children who are at risk of  
26 continuing in the cycle of poverty absent  
27 intervention.

28 (B) Identifying and developing effective and  
29 efficient plans, programs and recommendations to help  
30 at-risk children in this Commonwealth escape the



1 cycle of poverty.

2 (C) Implementing data-driven policies and  
3 programs, to the extent authorized by law, addressing  
4 poverty, public assistance, education, economic  
5 development, criminal justice and other areas as  
6 needed to measurably reduce the incidence of children  
7 in this Commonwealth who remain in poverty as they  
8 become adults.

9 (D) Establishing and facilitating improved  
10 cooperation, data sharing and policy coordination  
11 among all persons, from Commonwealth agencies to case  
12 workers, in rescuing children from intergenerational  
13 poverty.

14 (E) Studying and measuring the effect of  
15 intergenerational poverty on the ability of parents  
16 and children to achieve economic stability, including  
17 the effect on educational attainment, rates of  
18 incarceration, lifetime earnings, access to  
19 healthcare and access to housing.

20 (F) Studying, evaluating and reporting on the  
21 status and effectiveness of policies, procedures and  
22 programs that provide services to children in this  
23 Commonwealth affected by intergenerational poverty.

24 (G) Studying and evaluating the policies,  
25 procedures and programs implemented by other states  
26 and nongovernmental entities that address the needs  
27 of children affected by intergenerational poverty.

28 (H) Identifying Commonwealth policies,  
29 procedures and programs or Federal requirements that  
30 are impeding efforts to help children in this

1 Commonwealth affected by intergenerational poverty  
2 escape the cycle of poverty.

3 (I) Developing and implementing programs and  
4 policies that use the two-generation approach.

5 (iii) Studying and measuring the effect that poverty  
6 and economic insecurity have on all of the following:

7 (A) Worker productivity and economic output.

8 (B) The health and welfare of children,  
9 including access to health care, housing, proper  
10 nutrition and quality education.

11 (iv) Identifying Commonwealth programs, including  
12 those related to economic development, job creation, job  
13 training, the environment, disaster relief, hazard  
14 mitigation, extreme weather and climate change, in need  
15 of reform to better target resources to low-income,  
16 minority, rural, urban and other populations or  
17 geographic areas suffering from economic insecurity and  
18 disparate rates of poverty.

19 (v) Measuring the fiscal impact on the Commonwealth  
20 from successfully transitioning individuals and families  
21 from poverty to long-term economic stability. Fiscal  
22 impact measurements may include all of the following:

23 (A) Reductions in long-term costs of social  
24 safety net programs.

25 (B) Reductions in long-term health care costs by  
26 improving health of households formerly facing  
27 economic insecurity or poverty.

28 (C) Increases in State and local revenues  
29 attributable to new taxpaying individuals as a result  
30 of increased employment and disposable income.

1 (D) Reductions in enrollment and costs in need-  
2 based benefits and services programs.

3 (E) Improvements to the overall economy of this  
4 Commonwealth and reduced financial pressures on the  
5 State and local governments.

6 (2) To establish an ongoing system of data sharing,  
7 policy coordination and communication among and within  
8 Commonwealth agencies, local agencies and other organizations  
9 related to programs aimed at improving economic security and  
10 eliminating poverty.

11 (3) To identify knowledge gaps, research needs and  
12 policy and program deficiencies associated with economic  
13 insecurity and poverty.

14 (4) To assist the commission in the development of the  
15 strategic plan, including sharing data and information  
16 identified under paragraphs (1) and (3) and analyses of that  
17 data and information.

18 (5) To implement the strategic plan adopted by the  
19 commission, including all of the following:

20 (i) Coordinating implementation of the strategic  
21 plan.

22 (ii) Advising and assisting relevant agencies in the  
23 implementation of the strategic plan.

24 (iii) Advising relevant agencies on specific  
25 programmatic and policy matters related to the strategic  
26 plan.

27 (iv) Providing relevant subject matter expertise to  
28 each agency for purposes of implementing the strategic  
29 plan.

30 (v) Identifying and addressing issues that may

1 influence the future of the strategic plan.

2 Section 304. Report.

3 (a) Report.--No later than September 1 of each year, the  
4 workgroup shall issue a report that includes the following:

5 (1) A summary of actions taken and outcomes obtained by  
6 the workgroup in fulfilling its duties under section 303.

7 (2) Progress made on reducing poverty and economic  
8 insecurity in this Commonwealth, including policies or  
9 procedures implemented to reduce or eliminate the cycle of  
10 poverty and intergenerational poverty as a result of the data  
11 collected by the workgroup.

12 (3) Relevant data assessing the scope and depth of  
13 intergenerational poverty in this Commonwealth.

14 (4) A 20-year history of poverty rates in this  
15 Commonwealth with focus on any reduction or increase in the  
16 rates during the previous 10 years and since the inception of  
17 the workgroup.

18 (5) Any recommendations for legislative or regulatory  
19 action to adopt or repeal laws, policies or procedures to  
20 further the goal of eliminating poverty and economic  
21 insecurity in this Commonwealth.

22 (b) Distribution.--The workgroup shall distribute the report  
23 created under subsection (a) as follows:

24 (1) To the Governor.

25 (2) To each member of the General Assembly.

26 (3) By prominently posting the report on each  
27 Commonwealth department's and agency's publicly accessible  
28 Internet website.

29 CHAPTER 5

30 POVERTY ELIMINATION AND

1 ECONOMIC SECURITY STRATEGIC PLANNING

2 Section 501. The Pennsylvania Commission on Poverty Elimination  
3 and Economic Security.

4 (a) Establishment.--The Pennsylvania Commission on Poverty  
5 Elimination and Economic Security is established.

6 (b) Purpose.--The purpose of the commission is to:

7 (1) Inform the public policy making process by:

8 (i) Improving policymakers' understanding of the  
9 root causes of poverty and economic insecurity, including  
10 contributing social, economic and cultural factors and  
11 the reasons that poverty and economic insecurity persist  
12 in this Commonwealth.

13 (ii) Expanding policymakers' understanding of  
14 poverty by distinguishing a standard that measures a  
15 level of freedom from deprivation from a standard that  
16 measures economic security provided by a living wage and  
17 access to a livable standard of living.

18 (iii) Educating policymakers on the impact poverty  
19 has on other measures of economic stability and economic  
20 outcomes, including educational attainment, rates of  
21 incarceration, lifetime earnings, access to health care,  
22 health care outcomes and access to housing.

23 (2) Support governmental efforts to ensure that  
24 residents of this Commonwealth have equal opportunity to  
25 achieve economic security.

26 (3) Reduce and ultimately eliminate poverty in this  
27 Commonwealth by making policy and other recommendations to  
28 the legislative, executive and judicial branches of this  
29 Commonwealth.

30 (c) Membership.--The commission shall consist of the

1 following members:

2 (1) Four members of the General Assembly, one each  
3 appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate, the  
4 Minority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
5 Representatives and the Minority Leader of the House of  
6 Representative.

7 (2) A member of the judiciary or a designee who shall be  
8 appointed by the Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme  
9 Court.

10 (3) Twenty members of the public appointed under  
11 subsection (d) representing stakeholders as follows:

12 (i) Two representatives, one of whom shall represent  
13 an organization that focuses on rural poverty and one of  
14 whom shall represent an organization that focuses on  
15 urban and suburban poverty.

16 (ii) Two individuals who have experienced deep  
17 poverty.

18 (iii) One representative of an organization that  
19 advocates for health care access, affordability and  
20 availability.

21 (iv) One representative of an organization that  
22 advocated for individuals with mental illness.

23 (v) One representative of an organization that  
24 advocates for children and youth.

25 (vi) One representative of an organization that  
26 advocates for equity and equality in education.

27 (vii) One representative of an organization that  
28 advocates for individual who are homeless.

29 (viii) One representative of a Statewide antihunger  
30 organization.

1 (ix) One representative of an organization that  
2 advocates for military veterans.

3 (x) One representative of an organization that  
4 advocates for individuals with disabilities.

5 (xi) One representative of an organization that  
6 advocates for immigrants.

7 (xii) One representative of a Statewide faith-based  
8 organization that provides direct social services in this  
9 Commonwealth.

10 (xiii) One representative of an organization that  
11 advocates for economic security for women.

12 (xiv) One representative of an organization that  
13 advocates for older adults.

14 (xv) One representative of a labor organization that  
15 represents primarily low-wage and middle-wage earners.

16 (xvi) One representative of school districts in this  
17 Commonwealth.

18 (xvii) One representative of county governments in  
19 this Commonwealth.

20 (xviii) One representative of municipal corporation  
21 governments in this Commonwealth.

22 (4) The members of the workgroup shall serve as  
23 nonvoting ex officio members of the commission.

24 (d) Appointment.--The following shall apply:

25 (1) The public members of the commission under  
26 subsection (c) (3) shall be appointed as follows:

27 (i) Four shall be appointed by the Governor.

28 (ii) Four shall be appointed by the President pro  
29 tempore of the Senate.

30 (iii) Four shall be appointed by the Minority Leader

1 of the Senate.

2 (iv) Four shall be appointed by the Speaker of the  
3 House of Representatives.

4 (v) Four shall be appointed by the Minority Leader  
5 of the House of Representatives.

6 (2) It shall be determined by lot which appointing  
7 authority appoints which public members to the commission.

8 (3) The appointed members shall reflect the racial,  
9 gender and geographic diversity of this Commonwealth and  
10 shall include representation from regions of this  
11 Commonwealth experiencing economic insecurity and the highest  
12 rates of deep poverty.

13 (4) Public members of the commission shall be selected  
14 for service on the commission within 45 days of the effective  
15 date of this section.

16 (e) Qualifications.--Each member of the commission must have  
17 been a resident of this Commonwealth for a period of at least  
18 one year immediately preceding appointment and must continue  
19 residence in this Commonwealth during the member's tenure of  
20 service on the commission.

21 (f) Organizational meeting.--The organizational meeting of  
22 the commission shall take place after all members are appointed  
23 but no later than 60 days after the effective date of this  
24 section.

25 (g) Compensation.--Members shall serve without compensation,  
26 but public members may be reimbursed for reasonable and  
27 necessary travel expenses connected to commission business.

28 (h) Commission chairperson.--The representatives of the  
29 antipoverty organizations appointed under subsection (c) (3) (i)  
30 shall serve as cochairs of the commission.



1 (i) Committees.--The commission may establish subcommittees  
2 to address specific issues or populations and may collaborate  
3 with individuals with relevant expertise who are not members of  
4 the commission to assist the subcommittee in carrying out its  
5 duties.

6 (j) Meetings.--The full commission shall meet at least once  
7 annually.

8 (k) Quorum.--A majority plus one of the voting members shall  
9 constitute a quorum.

10 (l) Voting.--All actions of the commission and any  
11 subcommittees established by the commission shall be approved by  
12 majority vote of the commission or subcommittee as applicable.

13 (m) Open meetings.--The meetings of the commission shall be  
14 conducted in accordance with the provisions of 65 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7  
15 (relating to open meetings).

16 (n) Administrative support.--The Department of Human  
17 Services shall provide staff and administrative support to  
18 assist the commission in carrying out its duties.

19 Section 502. Strategic plan to address poverty and economic  
20 insecurity.

21 (a) Plan required.--No later than November 30, 2020, the  
22 commission shall develop and adopt a strategic plan to address  
23 poverty and economic insecurity in this Commonwealth.

24 (b) Goals.--The goals of the strategic plan shall be to:

25 (1) Ensure that Commonwealth programs and services  
26 targeting poverty and economic insecurity reflect the goal of  
27 helping individuals and families rise above poverty and  
28 achieve long-term economic stability rather than simply  
29 providing relief from deprivation.

30 (2) Eliminate disparate rates of poverty, deep poverty,

1 child poverty and intergenerational poverty based on race,  
2 ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation or identity,  
3 English language proficiency, ability and geographic location  
4 in a rural, urban or suburban area.

5 (3) Reduce deep poverty in this Commonwealth by 50% by  
6 2026.

7 (4) Eliminate child poverty in this Commonwealth by  
8 2031.

9 (5) Eliminate all poverty in this Commonwealth by 2036.

10 (c) Plan development.--In developing the strategic plan, the  
11 commission shall:

12 (1) Collaborate with the workgroup, including sharing  
13 data and information identified under section 303(a)(1) and  
14 (3) and analyses of that data and information.

15 (2) Review each program and service provided by the  
16 Commonwealth that targets poverty and economic insecurity for  
17 purposes of:

18 (i) determining which programs and services are the  
19 most effective and of the highest importance in reducing  
20 poverty and economic insecurity in this Commonwealth; and

21 (ii) providing an analysis of unmet needs, if any,  
22 among individuals, children and families in deep poverty  
23 and intergenerational poverty for each program and  
24 service identified under subparagraph (i).

25 (3) Study the feasibility of using public/private  
26 partnerships and social impact bonds, to improve innovation  
27 and cost-effectiveness in the development of programs and  
28 delivery of services that advance the goals of the strategic  
29 plan.

30 (4) Hold at least six public hearings in different

1 geographic regions of this Commonwealth, including areas that  
2 have disparate rates of poverty and that have historically  
3 experienced economic insecurity, to collect information, take  
4 testimony and solicit input and feedback from interested  
5 parties, including members of the public who have personal  
6 experiences with Commonwealth programs and services targeting  
7 economic insecurity, poverty, deep poverty, child poverty and  
8 intergenerational poverty and make the information publicly  
9 available.

10 (5) To request and receive from a Commonwealth agency or  
11 local government agency information relating to poverty in  
12 this Commonwealth, including all of the following:

- 13 (i) Reports.
- 14 (ii) Audits.
- 15 (iii) Data.
- 16 (iv) Projections.
- 17 (v) Statistics.

18 (d) Subject areas.--The strategic plan shall address all of  
19 the following:

- 20 (1) Access to safe and affordable housing.
- 21 (2) Access to adequate food and nutrition.
- 22 (3) Access to affordable and quality health care.
- 23 (4) Equal access to quality education and training.
- 24 (5) Equal access to affordable, quality post-secondary  
25 education options.
- 26 (6) Dependable and affordable transportation.
- 27 (7) Access to quality and affordable child care.
- 28 (8) Opportunities to engage in meaningful and  
29 sustainable work that pays a living wage and barriers to  
30 those opportunities experienced by low-income individuals in

1 poverty.

2 (9) Equal access to justice through a fair system of  
3 criminal justice that does not, in effect, criminalize  
4 poverty.

5 (10) Availability of adequate income supports.

6 (11) Retirement security.

7 (e) Plan content.--The strategic plan shall, at a minimum,  
8 contain policy and fiscal recommendations relating to all of the  
9 following:

10 (1) Developing fact-based measures to evaluate the long-  
11 term effectiveness of existing and proposed programs and  
12 services targeting poverty and economic insecurity.

13 (2) Increasing enrollment in programs and services  
14 targeting poverty and economic insecurity by reducing the  
15 complexity and difficulty of enrollment in order to maximize  
16 program effectiveness and increase positive outcomes.

17 (3) Increasing the reach of programs and services  
18 targeting poverty and economic insecurity by ensuring that  
19 Commonwealth agencies have adequate resources to maximize the  
20 public awareness of the programs and services, especially in  
21 historically disenfranchised communities.

22 (4) Reducing the negative impacts of asset limits for  
23 eligibility on the effectiveness of Commonwealth programs  
24 targeting poverty and economic insecurity by ensuring that  
25 eligibility limits do not:

26 (i) create gaps in necessary service and benefit  
27 delivery or restrict access to benefits as individuals  
28 and families attempt to transition off assistance  
29 programs; or

30 (ii) prevent beneficiaries from improving long-term

1 outcomes and achieving long-term economic independence  
2 from the program.

3 (5) Improving the ability of community-based  
4 organizations to participate in the development and  
5 implementation of Commonwealth programs designed to address  
6 economic insecurity and poverty.

7 (6) Improving the ability of individuals living in  
8 poverty, low-income individuals and unemployed individuals to  
9 access critical job training and skills upgrade programs and  
10 find quality jobs that help children and families become  
11 economically secure and rise above poverty.

12 (7) Improving communication and collaboration between  
13 Commonwealth agencies and local governments on programs  
14 targeting poverty and economic insecurity.

15 (8) Creating efficiencies in the administration and  
16 coordination of programs and services targeting poverty and  
17 economic insecurity.

18 (9) Connecting low-income children, disconnected youth  
19 and families of those children and youth to education, job  
20 training and jobs in the communities in which those children  
21 and youth live.

22 (10) Ensuring that the Commonwealth's services and  
23 benefits programs, emergency programs, discretionary economic  
24 programs and other policies are sufficiently funded to enable  
25 the Commonwealth to mount effective responses to economic  
26 downturns and increases in economic insecurity and poverty  
27 rates.

28 (11) Creating one or more Commonwealth poverty measures.

29 (12) Developing and implementing programs and policies  
30 that use the two-generation approach.

1           (13) Using public/private partnerships and social impact  
2 bonds to improve innovation and cost effectiveness in the  
3 development of programs and delivery of services that advance  
4 the goals of the strategic plan.

5           (14) Identifying best practices for collecting data  
6 relevant to all of the following:

7                 (i) Reducing economic insecurity and poverty.

8                 (ii) Reducing the racial, ethnic, age, gender,  
9 sexual orientation and sexual identity-based disparities  
10 in the rates of economic insecurity and poverty.

11                (iii) Adequately measuring the effectiveness,  
12 efficiency and impact of programs on the outcomes for  
13 individuals, families and communities who receive  
14 benefits and services.

15                (iv) Streamlining enrollment and eligibility for  
16 programs.

17                (v) Improving long-term outcomes for individuals who  
18 are enrolled in service and benefit programs.

19                (vi) Reducing reliance on public programs.

20                (vii) Improving connections to work.

21                (viii) Improving economic security.

22                (ix) Improving retirement security.

23                (x) Improving the Commonwealth's understanding of  
24 the impact of extreme weather and natural disasters on  
25 economically vulnerable communities and improving those  
26 communities' resilience to and recovery from extreme  
27 weather and natural disasters.

28                (xi) Improving access to living-wage employment.

29                (xii) Improving access to employment-based benefits.

30       (f) Other information.--In addition to the plan content

1 required under subsection (e), the strategic plan shall contain  
2 all of the following:

3 (1) A suggested timeline for the stages of  
4 implementation of the recommendations in the plan.

5 (2) Short-term, intermediate-term and long-term  
6 benchmarks to measure the Commonwealth's progress toward  
7 meeting the goals of the strategic plan.

8 (3) A summary of the review and analysis conducted by  
9 the commission under subsection (c)(1).

10 (g) Impact of recommendations.--For each recommendation in  
11 the plan, the commission shall identify in measurable terms the  
12 actual or potential impact the recommendation will have on  
13 poverty and economic insecurity in this Commonwealth.

14 Section 503. Commission reports.

15 (a) Interim report.--No later than June 30, 2020, the  
16 commission shall issue an interim report on the commission's  
17 activities to the Governor and the General Assembly.

18 (b) Report on strategic plan.--Upon the commission's  
19 adoption of the strategic plan, but no later than November 30,  
20 2021, the commission shall issue a report containing a summary  
21 of the commission's activities and the contents of the strategic  
22 plan. The commission shall submit the report to the Governor and  
23 each member of the General Assembly.

24 (c) Annual reports.--Beginning November 30, 2022, and each  
25 year thereafter, the commission shall issue a report on the  
26 status of the implementation of the commission's strategic plan.  
27 The report may contain any other recommendations of the  
28 commission to address poverty and economic insecurity in this  
29 Commonwealth.

30 Section 504. Duties of the Secretary of the Budget.

1 The Secretary of the Budget shall include in the materials  
2 submitted to the General Assembly outlining the Governor's  
3 proposed annual budget a description of any budget proposals or  
4 other activities, ongoing projects and plans of the executive  
5 branch designed to meet the goals and objectives of the  
6 strategic plan. The information shall include the following:

7 (1) An accounting of the savings to the Commonwealth  
8 from any increased efficiencies in the delivery of services.

9 (2) Any savings realized from reducing the number of  
10 individuals living in poverty and reducing the demand for  
11 need-based services and benefits.

12 (3) A projection of any increase in revenue collections  
13 due to any increase in the number of individuals who become  
14 employed and pay taxes into the State Treasury.

15 (4) Any other information related to the proposed annual  
16 budget the Secretary of the Budget believes furthers the  
17 goals and objectives of the strategic plan.

## 18 CHAPTER 7

### 19 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

20 Section 701. (Reserved).

21 Section 702. (Reserved).

22 Section 703. Effective date.

23 This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.