

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 421 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, SCAVELLO, RAFFERTY, MENSCH, STEFANO, YUDICHAK, VOGEL AND WHITE, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

SENATOR WAGNER, URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 19, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the President and the Congress of the United States to
2 review the changes to the Federal floodplain management
3 regulations that negatively impact our blighted communities.

4 WHEREAS, Blight is a growing problem in many communities in
5 this Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, Changes made to the Federal floodplain management
7 regulations were issued by executive order in January 2015; and

8 WHEREAS, Flood insurance is now required under the executive
9 order, making the redevelopment and revitalization of older,
10 blighted properties financially straining; and

11 WHEREAS, Federal agencies are obligated to apply these
12 standards to all Federal actions, including federally approved
13 permits, federally backed home loans and flood insurance
14 regulations and many Housing and Urban Development programs,
15 including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program; and

16 ~~WHEREAS, Due to these conversions, the Pennsylvania Housing <--
17 Finance Agency is no longer accepting applications for buildings
18 located in designated floodplain areas for the LIHTC program;~~

1 and

2 WHEREAS, While these changes were intended to enhance the
3 safety and security of citizens during floods and to diminish
4 the risk of flood loss, the modifications to the Federal
5 floodplain management regulations have hindered the ability of
6 our older communities to develop creative, nonprohibitive ways
7 to renovate abandoned buildings; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 urge the President and the Congress of the United States to
10 review the changes to the Federal floodplain management
11 regulations to assess whether exceptions should be made for
12 potential building projects so that applications can be
13 submitted to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency for review
14 and consideration UNDER THE LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT <--
15 PROGRAM AND SO THAT THE APPLICATIONS ARE NOT AT AN ECONOMIC
16 DISADVANTAGE; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
18 the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of
19 each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from
20 Pennsylvania.