

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1563 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY GIBBONS, FLYNN, MUNDY, SWANGER, CALTAGIRONE,
BOBACK, COHEN, QUINN, HESS, STEVENSON AND MURT, JUNE 20, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
JUNE 20, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 15, 1955 (P.L.865, No.256),
2 entitled "An act requiring rents and royalties from oil and
3 gas leases of Commonwealth land to be placed in a special
4 fund to be used for conservation, recreation, dams, and flood
5 control; authorizing the Secretary of Forests and Waters to
6 determine the need for and location of such projects and to
7 acquire the necessary land," providing for transfer of funds
8 to Fish Fund; and making editorial changes.

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

11 Section 1. The act of December 15, 1955 (P.L.865, No.256),
12 entitled "An act requiring rents and royalties from oil and gas
13 leases of Commonwealth land to be placed in a special fund to be
14 used for conservation, recreation, dams, and flood control;
15 authorizing the Secretary of Forests and Waters to determine the
16 need for and location of such projects and to acquire the
17 necessary land," is amended by adding a section to read:

18 Section 1.1. Beginning on the first July 1 on or after the
19 effective date of this section, and each July 1 thereafter, an
20 amount equal to five per centum of the rents and royalties

1 received under section 1, not to exceed six million dollars
2 (\$6,000,000) annually, shall be transferred to a restricted
3 account in the Fish Fund for use by the Pennsylvania Fish and
4 Boat Commission for the purpose of repairs or reconstruction of
5 high hazard dams managed by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat
6 Commission that are deemed unsafe.

7 Section 2. Sections 2 and 3 of the act are amended to read:

8 Section 2. [It] Except for those projects authorized under
9 section 1.1, it shall be within the discretion of the Secretary
10 of [Forests and Waters] Conservation and Natural Resources to
11 determine the need for and the location of any project
12 authorized by this act. The Secretary of [Forests and Waters]
13 Conservation and Natural Resources shall have the power to
14 acquire in the name of the Commonwealth by purchase,
15 condemnation or otherwise such lands as may be needed.

16 Section 3. All the moneys from time to time paid into the
17 "Oil and Gas Lease Fund" are specifically appropriated to the
18 Department of [Forests and Waters] Conservation and Natural
19 Resources to carry out the purposes of this act.

20 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.