

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2603 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY OWLETT, PICKETT, HAMM, STENDER, JAMES, CAUSER AND SMITH, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89, No.18), entitled "An
 2 act creating the Department of Conservation and Natural
 3 Resources consisting of certain functions of the Department
 4 of Environmental Resources and the Department of Community
 5 Affairs; renaming the Department of Environmental Resources
 6 as the Department of Environmental Protection; defining the
 7 role of the Environmental Quality Board in the Department of
 8 Environmental Protection; making changes to responsibilities
 9 of the State Conservation Commission and the Department of
 10 Agriculture; transferring certain powers and duties to the
 11 Department of Health; and repealing inconsistent acts," in
 12 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, providing
 13 for money collected from oil or gas leases under publicly
 14 owned streambeds.

15 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 16 hereby enacts as follows:

17 Section 1. The act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89, No.18), known
 18 as the Conservation and Natural Resources Act, is amended by
 19 adding a section to read:

20 Section 323. Money collected from oil or gas leases under
 21 publicly owned streambeds.

22 (a) Money collected beginning January 1, 2014.--The
 23 department shall estimate the amount of money collected by the

1 department beginning January 1, 2014, and ending on the
2 effective date of this subsection, from an oil or gas lease
3 under a publicly owned streambed in each county where such a
4 streambed is located. No later than 60 days from the effective
5 date of this subsection, the department shall distribute an
6 amount of money equal to the estimated amount of money collected
7 by the department beginning January 1, 2014, and ending on the
8 effective date of this subsection, in a single lump payment to
9 each county specified under this subsection.

10 (b) Money collected after effective date of subsection.--The
11 department shall distribute the money collected by the
12 department after the effective date of this subsection from an
13 oil or gas lease under a publicly owned streambed to the county
14 where the streambed is located.

15 (c) Use of money.--A county that is the recipient of money
16 under this section shall use the money solely for the purpose of
17 maintaining creeks and streams within the county at the county's
18 discretion.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.