

No. 1987-55

AN ACT

SB 200

Amending the act of July 2, 1984 (P.L.527, No.106), entitled "An act providing for the rehabilitation, development and acquisition of land, water and structural resources; defining the powers and duties of certain offices, agencies and municipalities; providing for the allotment of proceeds hereunder including Commonwealth grants; prescribing standards; and making appropriations," further providing for the use of funds; providing additional funds to the Department of Community Affairs; and extending the provisions of the law for an additional period.

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

Section 1. Section 3(2) of the act of July 2, 1984 (P.L.527, No.106), known as the Recreational Improvement and Rehabilitation Act, is amended to read:

Section 3. Eligible uses of funds.

In order to foster economic development, funds shall be used only for the following purposes:

* * *

(2) Acquisition of land for public recreation or park areas, [only where such] including acquisitions [are] made to obtain critical inholding or buffer areas adjacent to existing park and recreation areas, or to preserve critical wildlife habitat areas, including wetlands, or to develop hunting, fishing and boating areas and related support facilities.

* * *

Section 2. Sections 4(a) and 9 of the act, amended July 9, 1986 (P.L.1213, No.107), are amended to read:

Section 4. Appropriation of moneys.

(a) Appropriation.—From the moneys received by the Commonwealth from the issuance and sale of bonds and notes pursuant to the act of July 2, 1984 (P.L.512, No.104), known as the Pennsylvania Economic Revitalization Act, there are hereby appropriated as follows:

(1) The sum of \$19,780,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the Pennsylvania Economic Revitalization Fund to the Department of Environmental Resources for the period beginning July 1, 1984, and ending June 30, 1988, for site development and material costs for projects authorized and funded under the act of July 2, 1984 (P.L.561, No.112), known as the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps Act. The Secretary of Environmental Resources shall have the power to promulgate such statements of policy, guidelines, rules and regulations as may be necessary to effectuate the programs undertaken, including contracting with persons, firms, partnerships, associations or corporations as may be necessary. The Department of Environmental Resources shall establish proce-

dures for the application and distribution of funds pursuant to this section. Municipalities sponsoring projects authorized and funded under the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps Act shall be eligible to receive funding under this paragraph only for those projects having recreation purposes and then no more than 75% of the cost of development and materials for those projects. All other projects sponsored by municipalities shall be ineligible for funding under this paragraph.

(2) The sum of ~~[\$18,000,000]~~ *\$24,000,000*, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the Pennsylvania Economic Revitalization Fund to the Department of Community Affairs for the period beginning July 1, 1984, and ending June 30, ~~[1987]~~ *1988*, for State grants-in-aid to municipalities *and, in the case of cities of the first class, park commissions*, for land acquisition, rehabilitation, studies and development projects for recreation and conservation purposes, community centers and open space benefits as specified in section 3. The appropriated funds shall be expended ~~[equally over the three-year funding period]~~ *by the Department of Community Affairs so that \$18,000,000 is expended in equal sums over a three-year period from July 1, 1984, to June 30, 1987, and the remaining \$6,000,000 is expended in the fiscal year July 1, 1987, to June 30, 1988.* Funding shall be allocated to projects in accordance with the following:

(i) Not less than 50% of the total allocation shall be used to pay up to 50% for rehabilitation, studies and development projects.

(ii) Not more than 25% of the total allocation shall be used to pay up to 50% of the project costs for acquisition of recreation, park and open space benefit lands.

(iii) Not more than 25% of the total allocation shall be used to pay up to 50% for community center projects.

(iv) The department shall develop a small community or small projects component. This program shall be for the above purposes and those under section 3. This component shall be for grants-in-aid for projects of up to ~~[\$10,000]~~ *\$15,000* in amount, shall be up to 100% grants-in-aid and will cover only material costs, to assist those municipalities with a population of 4,000 or less residents unable to meet the matching requirements specified in this section.

(v) No municipality, *other than a city of the first class*, shall be eligible to receive more than \$200,000 in grants-in-aid in any fiscal year. *No city of the first class, including park commissions within such cities, shall cumulatively be eligible to receive more than \$600,000 in grants-in-aid in any fiscal year.*

(vi) *Not more than 5% of the total allocation shall be used by the department for personnel, equipment and operating costs to administer the Recreational Improvement and Rehabilitation Program and to provide technical assistance to municipalities for both grant-related and other recreation and conservation-related services. After June 30, 1988, the department may continue to use unspent funds from previous allocations pursuant to this section to administer the closeout of the grant*

projects and to continue a program of technical assistance.

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Section 9. Termination.

No funds under this act shall be awarded as grants-in-aid by the Department of Community Affairs after June 30, [1987] 1990. All funds appropriated [under section 4] to the Department of Environmental Resources [shall be encumbered by June 30, 1987, and] *for site development and material costs for projects authorized pursuant to the act of July 2, 1984 (P.L.561, No.112), known as the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps Act*, shall be expended by June 30, [1988] 1989.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 13th day of July, A. D. 1987.

ROBERT P. CASEY