
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1272 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY MASSER, RYAN, JAMES, MILLARD, DeLUCA, WHEELAND,
JONES, SAINATO AND WEBSTER, APRIL 17, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, APRIL 17, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 27, 2006 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873,
2 No.1), entitled "An act providing for taxation by school
3 districts, for the State funds formula, for tax relief in
4 first class cities, for school district choice and voter
5 participation, for other school district options and for a
6 task force on school cost reduction; making an appropriation;
7 prohibiting prior authorized taxation; providing for
8 installment payment of taxes; restricting the power of
9 certain school districts to levy, assess and collect taxes;
10 and making related repeals," in senior citizens property tax
11 and rent rebate assistance, further providing for
12 definitions.

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

15 Section 1. The definition of "income" in section 1303 of the
16 act of June 27, 2006 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1), known as
17 the Taxpayer Relief Act, is amended and the section is amended
18 by adding a definition to read:

19 Section 1303. Definitions.

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

23 * * *

1 "Income." All income from whatever source derived,
2 including, but not limited to:

3 (1) Salaries, wages, bonuses, commissions, income from
4 self-employment, alimony, support money, cash public
5 assistance and relief.

6 (2) The gross amount of any pensions or annuities,
7 including railroad retirement benefits for calendar years
8 prior to 1999 and 50% of railroad retirement benefits for
9 calendar years 1999 and thereafter.

10 (3) (i) All benefits received under the Social Security
11 Act (49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. § 301 et seq.), except
12 Medicare benefits, for calendar years prior to 1999, and
13 50% of all benefits received under the Social Security
14 Act, except Medicare benefits, for calendar years 1999
15 and thereafter.

16 (ii) Notwithstanding any other provision of this act
17 to the contrary, persons who, as of December 31, 2012,
18 are eligible for the property tax or rent rebate shall
19 remain eligible if the household income limit is exceeded
20 due solely to a Social Security cost-of-living
21 adjustment.

22 (iii) Eligibility in the property tax and rent
23 rebate program pursuant to subparagraph (ii) shall expire
24 on December 31, 2016.

25 (iv) Social Security substitute pensions for
26 calendar years prior to 2019 and 50% of Social Security
27 substitute pensions for calendar years 2019 and
28 thereafter. The amount of a Social Security substitute
29 pension shall not exceed the maximum Federal old age and
30 survivor benefit payments, less any Federal old age and

1 survivor benefit payments received under the Social
2 Security Act for employment covered under the Social
3 Security Act.

4 (4) All benefits received under State unemployment
5 insurance laws and veterans' disability payments.

6 (5) All interest received from the Federal or any state
7 government or any instrumentality or political subdivision
8 thereof.

9 (6) Realized capital gains and rentals.

10 (7) Workers' compensation.

11 (8) The gross amount of loss of time insurance benefits,
12 life insurance benefits and proceeds, except the first \$5,000
13 of the total of death benefit payments.

14 (9) Gifts of cash or property, other than transfers by
15 gift between members of a household, in excess of a total
16 value of \$300.

17 The term does not include surplus food or other relief in kind
18 supplied by a governmental agency, property tax or rent rebate,
19 inflation dividend, Federal veterans' disability payments or
20 State veterans' benefits.

21 * * *

22 "Social Security substitute pension." A pension that is
23 provided in lieu of old age and survivor benefit payments under
24 the Social Security Act to a person whose employment was not
25 covered under the Social Security Act.

26 * * *

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.