## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## **HOUSE BILL**

No. 882

Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY GLEIM, RYAN, LEWIS, MIHALEK, GAYDOS, KAUFFMAN, B. MILLER, GROVE, ZIMMERMAN AND ROTHMAN, MARCH 19, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, MARCH 19, 2019

## AN ACT

- Amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in indebtedness and borrowing, further 2 providing for definitions, for classification and authority 3 to issue bonds and notes, for cost of project and for exclusion of other self-liquidating debt to determine net 5 nonelectoral debt or net lease rental debt; providing for 6 preliminary filings with department prior to issuance of certain debt; further providing for small borrowing for 7 8 capital purposes, for debt statement, for submission to 9 10 department, for certificate of approval of transcript, for effect of failure of timely action by department and for 11 records of department; and providing for duties of 12 participants in transactions relating to incurring debt and 13 issuing bonds and notes. 14 15 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 16 hereby enacts as follows: 17 Section 1. The definition of "self-liquidating debt" in 18 section 8002(b) of Title 53 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended and subsection (c) is amended by adding 19 2.0 definitions to read: 21 § 8002. Definitions. 22 23 Exclusions from debt. -- With respect to exclusions from
- 24 any particular category of debt and subject to additional

- 1 definitions contained in subsequent provisions of this subpart
- 2 which are applicable to specific provisions of this subpart, the
- 3 following words and phrases when used in this subpart shall have
- 4 the meanings given to them in this section unless the context
- 5 clearly indicates otherwise:
- 6 "Self-liquidating debt." Debt payable solely from rents,
- 7 rates or other charges to the ultimate users of the project, to
- 8 be financed in whole or in part by that debt, or payable solely
- 9 from special levies or assessments of benefits lawfully
- 10 earmarked exclusively for that purpose. The term also includes
- 11 debt or any portion thereof at the time qualified as self-
- 12 liquidating pursuant to this subpart, whether or not solely
- 13 payable from those sources. The term "ultimate users" includes
- 14 the local government unit itself only where its use of the
- 15 project is incidental to the use of the project by other users.
- 16 A debt with respect to which debt service payments have been
- 17 made under a quaranty of the debt shall not be considered self-
- 18 liquidating.
- 19 \* \* \*
- 20 (c) Other definitions. -- Subject to additional definitions
- 21 contained in subsequent provisions of this subpart which are
- 22 applicable to specific provisions of this subpart, the following
- 23 words and phrases when used in this subpart shall have the
- 24 meanings given to them in this section unless the context
- 25 clearly indicates otherwise:
- 26 \* \* \*
- 27 <u>"Financial advisor." A person retained directly by a local</u>
- 28 government unit who for compensation engages in the business of
- 29 <u>advising that local government unit, either directly or in</u>
- 30 writing, as to the value of securities, bonds or notes or as to

- 1 the advisability of investing in, purchasing or selling
- 2 <u>securities</u>, bonds or notes. The term does not include an
- 3 <u>attorney</u>, <u>accountant or engineer whose performance of such</u>
- 4 <u>services is solely incidental to the practice of his profession.</u>
- 5 The term does not include a lender, underwriter or other entity
- 6 purchasing the bonds or notes of a local government unit.
- 7 \* \* \*
- 8 "Working capital." An amount which constitutes, under
- 9 generally accepted accounting principles, the cost of the day-
- 10 to-day operations of the project as well as a proper allowance
- 11 for contingencies, for a period not to exceed one year after
- 12 completion of the project. Working capital for periods exceeding
- 13 one year shall be treated as unfunded debt under sections 8129
- 14 (relating to scope of unfunded debt) and 8130 (relating to
- 15 approval by court to fund unfunded debt). Reimbursements under a
- 16 guaranty or amounts to be used to address budgetary deficits of
- 17 a local government unit or for other purposes not related to the
- 18 construction or operation of the project do not constitute
- 19 reasonable working capital in connection with the incurring of
- 20 <u>debt under this subpart.</u>
- 21 Section 2. Sections 8005(c) and (d), 8007 and 8026(a)(5) of
- 22 Title 53 are amended to read:
- 23 § 8005. Classification and authority to issue bonds and notes.
- 24 \* \* \*
- 25 (c) Authority to issue bonds and notes <u>and lease rental</u>
- 26 <u>debt</u>.--Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, every
- 27 local government unit shall have full power and authority to
- 28 issue bonds or notes, and make guaranties, leases, subsidy
- 29 contracts or other agreements evidencing the acquisition of
- 30 capital assets payable out of taxes and other general revenues,

- 1 to provide funds for and towards the cost of or the cost of
- 2 completing any project or combination of projects which the
- 3 local government unit is authorized to own, acquire, subsidize,
- 4 operate or lease or to participate in owning, acquiring,
- 5 subsidizing, operating or leasing with others, to issue tax
- 6 anticipation notes and funding bonds or notes as provided in
- 7 this subpart and to contract for insurance covering the risks of
- 8 nonpayment of principal, interest and premium of bonds, notes,
- 9 tax anticipation notes and guaranties.
- 10 (d) Nature of quaranty procedure for issuance and
- 11 prohibitions. -- The following shall apply to a guaranty:
- 12 (1) For the purpose of this subpart, unless debt
- 13 evidenced by a quaranty has been approved as electoral debt
- in accordance with Subchapter C (relating to procedure for
- securing approval of electors), the guaranty shall be deemed
- to be nonelectoral debt if the local government unit
- 17 quaranties its own bonds or notes and shall be deemed to be
- 18 lease rental debt if it quaranties the bonds or notes of an
- 19 authority or another local government unit. For the purpose
- of all other statutes, the guaranty shall be deemed to create
- 21 debt or indebtedness of the local government unit making the
- 22 quaranty.
- 23 (2) (i) A local government unit may issue a quaranty of
- debt of another separate and distinct local government
- 25 <u>unit or an authority it did not incorporate, only after</u>
- the local government unit has conducted its own due
- 27 <u>diligence to determine the risks involved in the</u>
- transaction, including the impact of the quaranty on the
- 29 future financial condition of the local government unit,
- the financial condition of the entity seeking the

| 1   | guaranty, the sources and reliability of revenue to cover     |
|-----|---|
| 2   | the underlying obligation and the likelihood of default       |
| 3   | of the entity seeking the guaranty. A guaranty may only       |
| 4   | be made by vote of the governing body after a public          |
| 5   | meeting at which the local government unit demonstrates       |
| 6   | such due diligence. A local government unit may only          |
| 7   | issue a guaranty to an authority or other local               |
| 8   | government unit for projects which are expressly              |
| 9   | authorized by statute, including projects under section       |
| 10  | 5607 (relating to purposes and powers).                       |
| 11  | (ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph           |
| 12  | (i), a local government unit may not issue a guaranty to      |
| 13  | a separate and distinct authority or local government         |
| 14  | unit for sums due under a qualified interest rate             |
| 15  | management agreement, nor may guaranties be issued for        |
| 16  | projects which involve untested technology or                 |
| 17  | <pre>experimentation.</pre>                                   |
| 18  | (3) A local government unit is prohibited from                |
| 19  | collecting a fee to guaranty the debt of an authority or      |
| 20  | another local government unit.                                |
| 21  | (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter       |
| 22  | or any other law to the contrary, an authority or a municipal |
| 23  | authority in existence on the effective date of this          |
| 24  | paragraph incorporated by two or more local government units  |
| 25  | for the purpose of providing loan programs for capital        |
| 26  | projects for the benefit of local government units and        |
| 27  | authorities or municipal authorities, shall not be subject to |
| 28  | the provisions of paragraph (2).                              |
| 29  | § 8007. Cost of project.                                      |
| 2 ^ | The goat of a project includes the amount of all payments to  |

- 1 contractors or for the acquisition of a project or for lands,
- 2 easements, rights and other appurtenances deemed necessary for
- 3 the project, fees of architects, engineers, appraisers,
- 4 consultants, financial advisors and attorneys incurred in
- 5 connection with the project financing costs, costs of necessary
- 6 printing and advertising, costs of preliminary feasibility
- 7 studies and tests, cost estimates and interest on money borrowed
- 8 to finance the project, if capitalized, to the date of
- 9 completion of construction and, if deemed necessary, for one
- 10 year thereafter, amounts to be placed in reserve funds, if any,
- 11 a reasonable initial working capital for operating the project
- 12 and a proper allowance for contingencies and any amount which
- 13 constitutes, under generally accepted accounting principles, a
- 14 cost of, and which has been determined by an independent actuary
- 15 or other expert to be required for the purposes of, a reserve or
- 16 a contribution toward a combined reserve, pool or other
- 17 arrangement for losses or liabilities covered by a self-
- 18 insurance arrangement established by one or more local
- 19 government units. Costs paid, from sources other than the debt
- 20 that is to be refunded, more than two years before an issuance
- 21 of new debt to finance the costs may not be included in the
- 22 <u>costs of a project financed by the new debt. Reimbursements</u>
- 23 <u>under a quaranty or amounts to be used by a local government</u>
- 24 unit to address budgetary deficits or other purposes not related
- 25 to the project do not constitute a cost of a project in
- 26 connection with the incurring of debt under this subpart. Costs
- 27 that qualify for funding of unfunded debt under section 8130
- 28 <u>(relating to approval by court to fund unfunded debt) may only</u>
- 29 constitute a cost of a project if the local government unit
- 30 complies with the requirements of section 8130.

- 1 § 8026. Exclusion of other self-liquidating debt to determine
- 2 net nonelectoral debt or net lease rental debt.
- 3 (a) Filings with department. -- Self-liquidating debt shall
- 4 not be excluded in determining net nonelectoral debt or net
- 5 lease rental debt for the purpose of establishing net debt of
- 6 either category where the debt is evidenced by general
- 7 obligation bonds or notes, by bonds, notes or other obligations
- 8 of an authority or of another local government unit or by a
- 9 quaranty until there has been filed with and approved by the
- 10 department a report to the local government unit from qualified
- 11 registered engineers or architects or other persons qualified by
- 12 experience appropriate to the project, setting forth:
- 13 \* \* \*
- 14 (5) The estimated net revenues of the project for each
- year of the remaining life of the bonds, notes or obligations
- 16 with <u>an explanation for any assumed increase and</u> a
- 17 computation showing, in reasonable detail, that the net
- 18 revenues, together with other available funds to be received
- in respect of the project, will be sufficient in each year to
- 20 pay the annual debt service, other than capitalized debt
- 21 service, on the bonds, notes or obligations or a specified
- aggregate principal amount thereof.
- 23 \* \* \*
- 24 Section 3. Title 53 is amended by adding a section to read:
- 25 § 8102.1. Preliminary filings with department prior to issuance
- of certain debt.
- 27 <u>(a) General rule.--Prior to the enactment of an ordinance</u>
- 28 <u>authorizing the sale or issuance of any general obligation bonds</u>
- 29 or notes or quaranteed revenue bonds or notes constituting
- 30 <u>nonelectoral debt or any agreement evidencing lease rental debt,</u>

- 1 a local government unit shall obtain proof of having filed with
- 2 the department the information and documentation required by
- 3 this section. Proof of filing for purposes of subsection (c) may
- 4 <u>be obtained by a certified mail return receipt or other delivery</u>
- 5 requiring signature, or a notice of receipt from the department.
- 6 (b) Required filings. -- A local government unit shall file
- 7 with the department a basic description of the intended
- 8 <u>financing and</u>, as applicable, the following information and
- 9 documentation:
- 10 (1) Evidence that the local government unit is current
- in the filing of its annual financial statements with
- 12 <u>Commonwealth agencies under applicable State law.</u>
- 13 (2) A description of the intended type and amount of
- 14 payment or performance bond, letter of credit or other
- financial security proposed to insure the completion of the
- 16 project.
- 17 (3) Information that the local government unit is up to
- 18 date on all of its municipal securities disclosures required
- 19 under 17 CFR § 240.15c2-12 (relating to municipal securities
- disclosure).
- 21 (4) A copy of the interest rate management plan prepared
- or reviewed by an independent financial advisor with respect
- 23 to a proposed qualified interest rate management agreement.
- 24 (5) If the local government unit intends for the
- 25 proposed debt to be self-liquidating or subsidized, a
- statement that the debt will qualify as self-liquidating or
- 27 <u>subsidized debt, including filings required under section</u>
- 28 8024 (relating to exclusion of subsidized debt from net
- 29 nonelectoral debt or net lease rental debt), 8025 (relating
- 30 to exclusion of self-liquidating debt evidenced by revenue

| 1 | honds | $\circ$ r   | notes   | t o | determine         | net  | nonelectoral | deht ' | Or          | 8026 |
|---|-------|-------------|---------|-----|-------------------|------|--------------|--------|-------------|------|
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- 2 (relating to exclusion of other self-liquidating debt to
- 3 <u>determine net nonelectoral debt or net lease rental debt), as</u>
- 4 <u>applicable.</u>
- 5 (6) If the local government unit has existing debt which
- 6 was previously approved by the department as self-liquidating
- 7 or subsidized, an explanation as to why the debt should
- 8 <u>continue to be treated as self-liquidating or subsidized and</u>
- 9 that no decrease in the amount to be excluded is required by
- 10 any change in circumstances, other than resulting from the
- 11 payments of the debt, or, if there has been a change in
- 12 circumstances, information demonstrating the amount of debt
- 13 <u>that should continue to be treated as self-liquidating or</u>
- 14 subsidized.
- 15 (7) Schedules demonstrating the estimated net debt
- service impact of the transaction and information
- 17 demonstrating that the local government unit adopted or
- approved a plan to provide the tax or other revenues
- 19 necessary to pay the debt service on the debt, if applicable.
- 20 (8) The debt statement required by section 8110
- 21 (relating to debt statement).
- 22 (9) A statement of the intended manner of sale of the
- 23 bonds or notes, and if bonds or notes are to be sold at
- 24 private sale by negotiation, the basis for the local
- 25 government unit's finding that selling the bonds or notes in
- 26 such manner are in the best financial interests of the local
- 27 government unit.
- 28 (10) A project cost statement detailing the intended
- uses of debt proceeds.
- 30 (11) If a quaranty from another local government unit is

- 1 proposed as a portion of the proposed borrowing, information
- 2 <u>demonstrating compliance with section 8005(d) (relating to</u>
- 3 <u>classification and authority to issue bonds and notes).</u>
- 4 (12) The declaration required by section 8291(a)
- 5 <u>(relating to duties of participants).</u>
- 6 (c) Action by department. --
- 7 (1) The department shall have 10 days after receipt of
- 8 the filing required under subsection (b) to notify the local
- 9 government unit of receipt of a complete filing. An\_
- 10 acknowledgment of a complete filing shall be valid for one
- 11 year from the date of the filing's issuance.
- 12 (2) If the department fails to notify the local
- 13 government unit of an incomplete filing or fails to otherwise
- 14 <u>acknowledge the receipt of a filing within 10 days, the local</u>
- government unit may proceed to incur the debt or may presume
- the filing to be valid and complete for one year from the
- 17 date the filing was submitted to the department.
- 18 (3) If the department finds in its reasonable discretion
- that the requirements are not satisfied in connection with
- the proposed debt, the department shall issue a notice of
- 21 such incomplete filing and the local government unit may not
- 22 proceed to incur the debt until acknowledgment from the
- 23 department that the filing requirements of subsection (b)
- have been completed.
- 25 (d) Exempt transactions. -- The following debt transactions
- 26 shall be exempt from the requirement to file preliminary
- 27 <u>documentation under this section:</u>
- 28 (1) Small borrowing for capital purposes as provided in
- 29 section 8109 (relating to small borrowing for capital
- 30 purposes).

- 1 (2) Transactions under Subchapter C of Chapter 82
- 2 (relating to refunding of debt) which consist exclusively of
- 3 the issuance and sale of obligations, the proceeds of which
- 4 <u>are to be used solely for purposes specified in section</u>
- 5 8241(b)(1) (relating to power to refund) for the payment or
- 6 redemption of outstanding obligations upon or prior to
- 7 <u>maturity and the costs of issuing the obligations. A</u>
- 8 <u>refunding transaction which includes a qualified interest</u>
- 9 <u>rate management agreement shall not be exempt from the</u>
- 10 requirements of this section.
- 11 (e) Review.--All determinations by the department under this
- 12 <u>section are reviewable as provided under 2 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7</u>
- 13 (relating to judicial review).
- 14 Section 4. Sections 8109(a)(1) and 8110(b) of Title 53 are
- 15 amended to read:
- 16 § 8109. Small borrowing for capital purposes.
- 17 (a) General rule. -- Any local government unit may incur debt
- 18 by resolution rather than by ordinance to be evidenced by notes
- 19 to provide funds for a project as defined in this subpart
- 20 without complying with the requirements of Subchapter A of
- 21 Chapter 82 (relating to Department of Community and Economic
- 22 Development) if:
- 23 (1) The aggregate amount of the debt outstanding at any
- one time shall not exceed the lesser of [\$125,000] \$250,000
- 25 or 30% of the nonelectoral debt limit as authorized in
- section 8022(a) (relating to limitations on incurring of
- other debt).
- 28 \* \* \*
- 29 § 8110. Debt statement.
- 30 \* \* \*

1 Previously excluded self-liquidating or subsidized 2 debt. -- Where debt has previously been excluded as self-3 liquidating or subsidized debt, the debt statement shall be accompanied by a certification that indicates one of the 4 following: 5 6 (1) no decrease in the amounts to be excluded is 7 required by any change of circumstances [or, if there has 8 been a change, other than decreases resulting from the 9 payments of bonds or notes, so that less debt is to be excluded. If it has become possible to exclude a greater 10 amount of debt and the local government unit desires to do 11 12 so, the debt statement shall be accompanied by appropriate 13 certificates supporting the revised amount to be excluded, 14 and a revised approval shall be obtained from the department.]; or 15 16 (2) a decrease in the amounts to be excluded is required 17 due to a change in circumstances, in which case: 18 (i) The change in circumstance must be described. If 19 it has become possible to exclude a greater amount of 20 debt and the local government unit wants to do so, the 21 debt statement shall be accompanied by appropriate 22 certifications supporting the revised amount to be 23 excluded and a revised approval shall be obtained from 24 the department.

(ii) No debt service payments have been made under a guaranty of debt previously established as selfliquidating. Debt service payments that have been made under a guarantee of the local government unit shall no longer be considered self-liquidating unless and until the local government unit files with the department a new

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- 1 report satisfying the requirements of section 8025
- 2 (relating to exclusion of self-liquidating debt evidenced
- 3 by revenue bonds or notes to determine net nonelectoral
- 4 <u>debt) or 8026 (relating to exclusion of other self-</u>
- 5 <u>liquidating debt to determine net nonelectoral debt or</u>
- 6 <u>net lease rental debt), as the case may be.</u>
- 7 Section 5. Section 8111(a) of Title 53 is amended by adding
- 8 paragraphs to read:
- 9 § 8111. Submission to department.
- 10 (a) General rule. -- Before delivering any bonds or notes
- 11 other than notes representing small borrowings issued under
- 12 section 8109 (relating to small borrowing for capital purposes),
- 13 the local government unit shall apply for and receive or be
- 14 deemed to have received the approval of the department under
- 15 section 8204 (relating to certificate of approval of transcript)
- 16 or 8206 (relating to effect of failure of timely action by
- 17 department). The application, in such form as the department
- 18 prescribes, shall be accompanied by a transcript of the
- 19 proceedings consisting of certified copies of any of the
- 20 following, not previously filed, which are applicable:
- 21 \* \* \*
- 22 <u>(8) A written statement with regard to the manner of</u>
- 23 compliance or intended compliance with the requirements of
- 24 the act of December 20, 1967 (P.L.869, No.385), known as the
- 25 Public Works Contractors' Bond Law of 1967.
- 26 (9) An itemized statement of all estimated disbursements
- 27 <u>for costs to be made from the proceeds of the borrowing to</u>
- 28 the extent possible.
- 29 \* \* \*
- 30 Section 6. Sections 8204, 8206 and 8207(a) and (c) of Title

- 1 53 are amended to read:
- 2 § 8204. Certificate of <u>final</u> approval [of transcript].
- 3 (a) Examination of transcripts and filings. --
- (1) The department shall, upon receipt of any bond or note transcripts or other filings, carefully examine them to determine whether the debt outstanding and to be outstanding is within the applicable limitations imposed by this subpart and whether the proceedings for incurring the debt, for issuing and selling the bonds or notes and for excluding
- 10 self-liquidating and subsidized debt have been taken in
- 11 conformity with the Constitution of Pennsylvania and this
- subpart.
- 13 (2) If the debt requires preliminary filings to be made
- 14 <u>under section 8102.1 (relating to preliminary filings with</u>
- department prior to issuance of certain debt), the
- 16 <u>preliminary filings shall become part of the transcript and</u>
- 17 be a requirement for final approval under this section.
- 18 <u>(b) Duty to certify.--</u>If, upon completion of its
- 19 examination, a transcript or other filing is found by the
- 20 department to be in conformity with the Constitution of
- 21 Pennsylvania and this subpart, the department shall certify its
- 22 approval to the local government unit if required under other
- 23 provisions of this subpart.
- 24 § 8206. Effect of failure of timely action by department.
- 25 If the local government unit has submitted [a filing] an
- 26 <u>application for final approval</u> to the department by certified
- 27 mail, return receipt requested, or otherwise has an official
- 28 receipt from the department, and the local government unit has
- 29 not, within 20 days of the date of receipt of the filing by the
- 30 department, received the certificate of <u>final</u> approval or

- 1 disapproval or notification of correctable error, the filing
- 2 shall be deemed to have been approved for all purposes unless
- 3 the local government unit has extended the time within which the
- 4 department may act by written communication to the department or
- 5 by failure to object to a written communication from the
- 6 department requesting the extension. Extensions shall not exceed
- 7 one additional period of 20 days.
- 8 § 8207. Records of department.
- 9 (a) Retention period. -- The department shall keep all
- 10 proceedings <u>including all applications and statements by a local</u>
- 11 government unit under sections 8102.1 (relating to preliminary
- 12 filings with department prior to issuance of certain debt), 8111
- 13 <u>(relating to submission to department) and 8201 (relating to</u>
- 14 certification to department of bond or note transcript or lease,
- 15 guaranty, subsidy contract or other agreement) on file for a
- 16 period of not less than [four months after issuance of its
- 17 certificate of approval or disapproval and thereafter as long as
- 18 any appeal respecting the proceedings is pending and not finally
- 19 determined.] five years after the debt issuance has been paid
- 20 off by the local government unit. The department shall also keep
- 21 copies of all documents filed with the department relating to a
- 22 <u>qualified interest rate management agreement for as long as the</u>
- 23 qualified interest rate management agreement is in effect.
- 24 \* \* \*
- 25 (c) Records open for inspection. -- [The records of the
- 26 department shall be public records available for examination by
- 27 any citizen of this Commonwealth or any bondholders or
- 28 noteholders.] All submissions, determinations and records of the
- 29 <u>department under this subpart, including those related to</u>
- 30 qualified interest rate management agreements and including

- 1 correspondence with the interested parties to any debt
- 2 proceeding, shall be public records available for examination by
- 3 any citizen of this Commonwealth, any interested parties or any
- 4 bondholder or noteholder, including holders of tax anticipation
- 5 <u>notes</u>, of the local government unit.
- 6 Section 7. Chapter 82 of Title 53 is amended by adding a
- 7 subchapter to read:
- 8 SUBCHAPTER G
- 9 <u>OTHER PROVISIONS</u>
- 10 Sec.
- 11 8291. Duties of participants.
- 12 § 8291. Duties of participants.
- 13 <u>(a) Declaration of representation.--</u>
- 14 (1) As a condition of participation in transactions
- 15 <u>under Chapter 81 (relating to incurring debt and issuing</u>
- bonds and notes) and this chapter, each attorney, financial
- 17 advisor or municipal advisor registered under the Securities
- 18 Exchange Act of 1934 (48 Stat. 881, 15 U.S.C. § 78a et seq.)
- 19 who is involved in the transaction shall provide a written
- 20 declaration to the local government unit as to:
- 21 (i) Which party is being represented by the attorney
- 22 or financial advisor.
- 23 (ii) The source from which the attorney or financial
- 24 advisor will receive compensation for services related to
- 25 the transaction.
- 26 (iii) Whether the compensation is dependent upon the
- 27 <u>issuance of debt by the local government unit.</u>
- 28 (2) A full-time employee of the local government unit
- 29 shall not be required to file a declaration under this
- 30 subsection.

1 (b) Fiduciary duty of representatives retained by local 2 government units. --(1) An attorney or financial advisor, including an 3 independent financial advisor under section 8281 (relating to 4 5 qualified interest rate management agreements) who is retained and compensated by a local government to represent 6 7 the local government unit in a transaction under this 8 subpart, shall stand in a fiduciary relationship to the local 9 government unit. 10 (2) (i) With regard to a financial advisor who represents a local government unit, the term "fiduciary 11 12 duty" shall mean the duty to perform loyally, in good 13 faith and in a manner the financial advisor reasonably 14 believes to be in the best interests of the local 15 government unit. The financial advisor shall act with such care, including reasonable inquiry, skill and 16 diligence that a person of ordinary prudence would use 17 18 under similar circumstances, and provide opinion as to 19 possible positive and negative impacts of a transaction. 20 (ii) With regard to attorneys licensed to practice law in this Commonwealth, the fiduciary duty shall be as 21 22 prescribed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, including 23 the Pennsylvania Rules of Professional Conduct. 24 (3) An attorney or financial advisor in the course of 25 the representation shall be entitled to rely on reasonable 26 representations and certifications made to the attorney or 27 financial advisor by architects, engineers and other persons retained by and the officers and employees of a local 28

30 (4) Pursuant to subsection (f) of Municipal Securities

government unit.

29

- 1 Rulemaking Board Rule G-23 (relating to activities of
- 2 <u>financial advisors</u>), 17 CFR §§ 240.15Ba1-1 (relating to
- definitions), 240.15Ba1-2 (relating to registration of
- 4 <u>municipal advisors and information regarding certain natural</u>
- 5 persons), 240.15Ba1-3 (relating to exemption of certain
- 6 <u>natural persons from registration under section 15B(a)(1)(B)</u>
- 7 of the act), 240.15Ba1-4 (relating to withdrawal from
- 8 <u>municipal advisor registration</u>), 240.15Ba1-5 (relating to
- 9 <u>amendments to Form MA and Form MA-I), 240.15Ba1-6 (relating</u>
- 10 to consent to service of process to be filed by non-resident
- 11 <u>municipal advisors; legal opinion to be provided by non-</u>
- 12 <u>resident municipal advisors</u>), 240.15Ba1-7 (relating to
- 13 <u>registration of successor to municipal advisor) and</u>
- 14 240.15Ba1-8 (relating to books and records to be made and
- maintained by municipal advisors), and only as to those
- 16 <u>representatives retained and compensated directly by the</u>
- 17 local government unit, the fiduciary duty described in this
- 18 section shall be in addition to any duty imposed by rules
- 19 promulgated by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board that
- 20 may apply to the attorney or financial advisor.
- 21 (c) Ultra vires acts.--An officer or member of the governing
- 22 body of a local government unit or a financial advisor or
- 23 attorney may not knowingly participate in a violation of this
- 24 title.
- 25 <u>(d) Materially false or misleading certifications.--An</u>
- 26 officer or member of the governing body of a local government
- 27 unit or an attorney or financial advisor may not knowingly file
- 28 a materially false or misleading certification or statement with
- 29 the department under this subpart.
- 30 (e) Penalties.--

- 1 (1) An officer or member of the governing body of a
- 2 local government unit or an attorney or financial advisor who
- 3 <u>aids or participates in the commission of an act prohibited</u>
- 4 <u>in subsection (c) or (d) commits a misdemeanor of the second</u>
- 5 <u>degree and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine</u>
- 6 of not more than \$5,000 or to imprisonment for not more than
- 7 <u>two years</u>, or both.
- 8 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a local government
- 9 unit may seek civil judicial redress for a violation of this
- 10 section that results in damages to the local government unit
- 11 not caused by the local government unit or its agents. A
- 12 <u>local government unit shall prohibit or restrict the future</u>
- 13 <u>participation in transactions under this subpart of an</u>
- 14 <u>individual attorney or financial advisor who violates this</u>
- 15 <u>section and may also prohibit or restrict participation of a</u>
- firm that employs the attorney or financial advisor for a
- 17 period not to exceed two years.
- 18 Section 8. All acts and parts of acts are repealed insofar
- 19 as they are inconsistent with the amendment or addition of 53
- 20 Pa.C.S. §§ 8002(b) and (c), 8005(c) and (d), 8007, 8026(a)(5),
- 21 8102.1, 8111(a), 8204, 8206, 8207(a) and (c) and 8291.
- 22 Section 9. This act shall take effect in 60 days.