
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1387 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, SABATINA, FONTANA, FARNESE, BREWSTER,
TEPLITZ, SCHWANK AND KITCHEN, OCTOBER 17, 2016

REFERRED TO URBAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING, OCTOBER 17, 2016

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 28, 1937 (P.L.955, No.265), entitled, as
2 amended, "An act to promote public health, safety, morals,
3 and welfare by declaring the necessity of creating public
4 bodies, corporate and politic, to be known as housing
5 authorities to engage in slum clearance, and to undertake
6 projects, to provide dwelling accommodations for persons of
7 low income; providing for the organization of such housing
8 authorities; defining their powers and duties; providing for
9 the exercise of such powers, including the acquisition of
10 property by purchase, gift or eminent domain, the renting and
11 selling of property, and including borrowing money, issuing
12 bonds, and other obligations, and giving security therefor;
13 prescribing the remedies of obligees of housing authorities;
14 authorizing housing authorities to enter into agreements,
15 including agreements with the United States, the
16 Commonwealth, and political subdivisions and municipalities
17 thereof; defining the application of zoning, sanitary, and
18 building laws and regulations to projects built or maintained
19 by such housing authorities; exempting the property and
20 securities of such housing authorities from taxation; and
21 imposing duties and conferring powers upon the State Planning
22 Board, and certain other State officers and departments,"
23 further providing for powers of the authority; and providing
24 for relocation.

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

27 Section 1. Section 10 of the act of May 28, 1937 (P.L.955,
28 No.265), referred to as the Housing Authorities Law, is amended
29 by adding a clause to read:

1 Section 10. Powers of an Authority.--An Authority shall
2 constitute a public body, corporate and politic, exercising
3 public powers of the Commonwealth as an agency thereof, which
4 powers shall include all powers necessary or appropriate to
5 carry out and effectuate the purpose and provisions of this act,
6 including the following powers, in addition to others herein
7 granted:

8 * * *

9 (hh) To cooperate and execute agreements with other
10 authorities in the same geographic region for the purposes of
11 accommodating any tenant who requests to be relocated under
12 section 13.3.

13 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

14 Section 13.3. Relocation.--(a) A tenant may submit to the
15 Authority a request to be relocated from the tenant's existing
16 dwelling to another dwelling under the control of the Authority
17 to which the request is submitted or to a dwelling under the
18 control of an Authority within the same geographic region.

19 (b) Each Authority shall review and approve a request
20 submitted under subsection (a) within five (5) days of receipt
21 of the request.

22 (c) An Authority shall relocate the tenant making the
23 request and any member of the tenant's household requesting to
24 be relocated to another dwelling unit under the control of the
25 Authority or under the control of an Authority within the same
26 geographic region within thirty (30) days of the submission of
27 the request.

28 (d) An Authority may not disclose the new address of a
29 relocated tenant to an individual identified by the tenant as
30 the perpetrator or an individual or entity representing the

1 perpetrator, unless by court order.

2 (e) All information submitted to an Authority by a tenant
3 seeking relocation under this section shall be confidential and
4 shall not be subject to disclosure under any State law unless
5 ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

6 (f) For purposes of this section, the term "tenant" shall
7 mean an individual residing in a dwelling unit of the Authority
8 who is any of the following:

9 (1) A victim of abuse as defined in 23 Pa.C.S. § 6102
10 (relating to definitions) who files an affidavit with the
11 Authority stating the affiant's eligibility for a protection
12 from abuse order and further stating that the affiant fears
13 future violent acts by the perpetrator of abuse.

14 (2) A victim of sexual violence as defined in 42 Pa.C.S. §
15 62A03 (relating to definitions) who files an affidavit with the
16 Authority describing the perpetrator's violent actions or
17 threatened violent actions toward the affiant and further
18 stating that the affiant fears future violent acts by the
19 perpetrator of the sexual violence.

20 (3) A victim of stalking who files an affidavit with the
21 Authority describing the perpetrator's course of conduct or
22 repeated actions toward the affiant meeting the criteria
23 enumerated under 18 Pa.C.S. § 2709.1 (relating to stalking) and
24 further stating that the affiant fears future violent acts by
25 the perpetrator of the stalking.

26 (4) An individual, other than the perpetrator, who is a
27 member of the same household as the tenant requesting
28 relocation.

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