



SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 588 Printer's No. 663

Prime Sponsor: Senator Browne
Committee: State Government

SYNOPSIS:

Establishes the Pennsylvania Museum Preservation Act (Act).

SUMMARY:

Requires the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (Commission) to create a grant program to provide state funds to eligible museums. Within 120 days of the effective date, the Commission shall establish guidelines consistent with the Act, and these guidelines shall be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* as well as on the Commission's website. The Act also contains program requirements that explain the types of museums that are eligible as well as the standards eligible museums must meet.

The grants may not exceed the following:

- An eligible museum with an operating budget of more than \$100,000 may apply for grants equal to 15% of its operating budget.
- A museum with the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) accreditation may receive an additional grant of up to 1% of its operating budget.
- Grants cannot exceed a total of \$500,000.

Establishes a Pennsylvania Museum Preservation Fund (Fund) in the State Treasury as a special fund. Money in the Fund is appropriated to the Commission for purposes authorized under the Act. The Commonwealth shall annually transfer \$15 million of the receipts deposited into the General Fund into the Fund by August 1.

Effective Date: 60 days.

AMENDMENT A01818:

Requires the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to publish annually on its website any project which received funding as a redevelopment assistance capital project as defined in the Capital Facilities Debt Enabling Act.

BILL HISTORY:

Referred to State Government, April 7, 2017

Similar version of the bill (SB170) was passed by the Senate State Government Committee (10-0) in the 2015-2016 legislative session.

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