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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2562 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY FITZGERALD, HOHENSTEIN, SANCHEZ, SOLOMON, CEPHAS,  
DELLOSO, T. DAVIS, SCHLOSSBERG, KINSEY, PARKER, MADDEN, HILL-  
EVANS, NEILSON, SHUSTERMAN, GUENST, KENYATTA, BROOKS, KIM,  
O'MARA, KIRKLAND AND INNAMORATO, APRIL 28, 2022

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 28, 2022

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AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 35 (Health and  
2 Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in  
3 firearms and other dangerous articles, further providing for  
4 licenses and for sale or transfer of firearms; establishing  
5 the Safe Communities Grant Program and the Safe Communities  
6 Grant Program Fund; and imposing duties on the Pennsylvania  
7 Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

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

10 Section 1. Section 6109(h) (1) introductory paragraph of  
11 Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended  
12 and the subsection is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

13 § 6109. Licenses.

14 \* \* \*

15 (h) Fee.--

16 (1) In addition to fees described in paragraphs [(2)(ii)  
17 and] (3) and (3.1), the fee for a license to carry a firearm  
18 is \$19. This includes all of the following:

19 \* \* \*



1 5903. Safe Communities Grant Program Fund.

2 5904. Applications.

3 5905. Award of program grants.

4 5906. Reports.

5 § 5901. Definitions.

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

9 "Commission." The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and  
10 Delinquency.

11 "Eligible applicant." A municipality located within this  
12 Commonwealth that has not received a grant from the program in  
13 the previous five years.

14 "Fund." The Safe Communities Grant Program Fund established  
15 under section 5903 (relating to Safe Communities Grant Program  
16 Fund).

17 "Municipality." A county, city, borough, incorporated town,  
18 township, home rule municipality, optional plan municipality,  
19 optional charter municipality or similar general purpose unit of  
20 government that may be created or authorized by statute or  
21 school district.

22 "Program." The Safe Communities Grant Program established  
23 under section 5902 (relating to grant program).

24 § 5902. Grant program.

25 (a) Establishment.--The Safe Communities Grant Program is  
26 established as a competitive grant program within the  
27 commission.

28 (b) Purpose.--The purpose of the program is to award grants  
29 to improve public health and safety around this Commonwealth  
30 through the installation and maintenance of lighting or security

1 cameras, or both, in and around high crime areas, as determined  
2 by the commission, schools, playgrounds and recreation centers.

3 (c) Administration.--The commission shall administer the  
4 program.

5 (d) Public notice.--The commission shall provide information  
6 regarding the availability and award of program grant money on  
7 the commission's publicly accessible Internet website.

8 § 5903. Safe Communities Grant Program Fund.

9 (a) Establishment.--The Safe Communities Grant Program Fund  
10 is established in the State Treasury.

11 (b) Appropriation.--All money deposited into the fund and  
12 interest earned on the money in the fund are appropriated to the  
13 commission on a continuing basis to award grants under this  
14 chapter.

15 § 5904. Applications.

16 (a) Forms.--The commission shall develop annual grant  
17 application forms for any eligible applicants that seek a  
18 program grant. At a minimum, the forms shall contain the  
19 following information:

20 (1) The name, address and contact information of the  
21 municipality.

22 (2) The amount of program grant money requested.

23 (3) The proposed use for the requested program grant  
24 money.

25 (4) If applicable, a detailed plan describing the  
26 monitoring of any security cameras installed with money from  
27 the program.

28 (5) If applicable, a detailed maintenance plan for any  
29 lighting installed with money from the program.

30 (6) Any other information that the commission deems

1 necessary and appropriate.

2 (b) Application period.--Beginning no later than 180 days  
3 after the effective date of this section, the commission shall  
4 begin accepting and processing applications. For all subsequent  
5 years, the commission shall establish an application period  
6 during which applications for grants under this chapter are  
7 accepted.

8 § 5905. Award of program grants.

9 (a) Review.--After review of the information provided under  
10 each applicant's submitted application form, the commission  
11 shall determine whether to award grant program money to the  
12 applicant and, if so, the amount of the program grant money  
13 awarded.

14 (b) Allocation.--The commission may not award a grant in  
15 excess of \$25,000 nor provide grants in excess of the amount in  
16 the fund.

17 (c) Competitive nature of awards.--Program grants shall be  
18 awarded on a competitive basis to eligible applicants. In  
19 awarding program grants, the commission shall:

20 (1) Give preference to applicants whose grant proposals  
21 demonstrate the greatest likelihood of reducing the number of  
22 persons victimized by gun violence in their community.

23 (2) Consider the scope of the applicant's proposal and  
24 the applicant's demonstrated need for additional resources to  
25 effectively reduce gun violence in the affected municipality.

26 (d) Time periods.--

27 (1) The commission shall approve or deny an application  
28 no later than 60 days after the receipt of the application.

29 (2) If the commission fails to approve or deny within 60  
30 days after the receipt of the application, the application

1 shall be deemed denied.

2 (e) Notice.--

3 (1) The commission shall provide written notice to the  
4 applicant of the award or denial of the program grant money.

5 (2) Notice of the award of program grant money shall  
6 include the amount of the program grant money awarded and any  
7 conditions or restrictions on the use of the program grant  
8 money.

9 (3) Notice of the denial of all or part of the program  
10 grant money requested shall include the reasons for the full  
11 or partial denial.

12 § 5906. Reports.

13 No less than every three years, the commission shall prepare  
14 and submit a report to the General Assembly regarding the rate  
15 of gun violence in municipalities that received grants from the  
16 program.

17 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.