

tax was erroneous and without authority of law, if application for such refunds shall be made within two years after the effective date of this amendment.] *The board shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any petition for refund filed prior to such final judgment only if, at the time of the filing thereof, proceedings are pending in a court of competent jurisdiction wherein the claims of unconstitutionality or erroneous interpretation made in the petition for refund may be established, and in such case the board shall not act upon the petition for refund until the final judgment determining the question or questions involved in such petition has been handed down.*

Act effective immediately.

Jurisdiction of Board of Finance and Revenue to hear and determine certain petitions for refund extended.

Section 2. The provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment; and the jurisdiction of the Board of Finance and Revenue to hear and determine petitions for refund, as such jurisdiction is prescribed in this act, shall extend to all petitions for refund on file with said board at the time of final enactment of this act.

APPROVED—The 19th day of January, A. D. 1952.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 624

AN ACT

To promote the uniform development of Allegheny County; creating the Metropolitan Study Commission of Allegheny County; defining its powers and duties; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Governor and the governing bodies of political subdivisions.

Metropolitan Study Commission of Allegheny County.

Purpose and creation of commission.

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

Section 1. In order to promote the uniform development of the one hundred twenty-nine municipalities within Allegheny County and to encourage those municipalities to cooperate in meeting the problems attendant to the tremendous growth of Allegheny County in recent years, there is hereby created a commission to be known as the Metropolitan Study Commission of Allegheny County.

Composition of commission.

Section 2. The commission shall consist of fourteen members to be appointed by the Governor from nominations made by the following: Allegheny Conference on Community Development, the Pennsylvania Economy League, the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Allegheny County Association of Township Commissioners, the Allegheny County

Association of Township Supervisors, the Allegheny County Association of Boroughs, one representative from the Third Class Cities within Allegheny County, the City Council of Pittsburgh, the County Commissioners of Allegheny County, the Allegheny County Board of School Directors, the Allegheny County Independent School District Superintendents Association, and the Pittsburgh Regional Planning Association. Each governing body, organization or group named shall nominate one person for appointment to the commission.

Section 3. The commission shall meet at the call of the Governor and not later than September 15, 1951, and elect, from among its members, a chairman and a secretary. The commission shall thereafter fix the time of its meetings and adopt rules and by-laws to govern its operations. Any organization or group failing to make such nomination before the first meeting may make such nomination at a later time.

Meetings.

Section 4. (a) The commission hereby created shall make a study of the facts relating to the following subjects:

Duties of commission.

(1) Building ordinances, modern building codes, and the control of housing developments by political subdivisions.

(2) Cooperation among communities and within communities to develop or acquire improvements.

(3) Balanced housing to make the county as attractive as possible without imposing obstacles on lower income groups and with a minimum interference with private property owners.

(4) Consolidation of small neighboring communities.

(5) Consolidation of school districts.

(6) Any other subject which the commission deems proper and within the purposes of this act.

(b) The commission is hereby authorized and directed to make a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the General Assembly, the municipalities, and other bodies concerned, on or before January 1, 1953.

Section 5. The governing bodies of the various political subdivisions within Allegheny County are hereby authorized and directed to extend their full cooperation to the commission in carrying out the provisions of this act.

Political subdivisions within county to cooperate with commission.

Section 6. The commission shall have power:

Powers of commission.

(1) To accept the services of any organization created for or dedicated to the improvement of local government.

(2) To accept gifts.

(3) To raise by public subscription sufficient funds to carry out the provisions of this act.

(4) To employ such clerks, technical or expert personnel and other employes necessary to carry on its work.

Compensation.

Section 7. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation for their services, but may be reimbursed by the commission for actual expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

Term of commission.

Section 8. The term of this commission shall expire at the end of the 1953 session of the General Assembly.

Act effective immediately.

Section 9. This act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment.

APPROVED—The 21st day of January, A. D. 1952.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 625

### AN ACT

To further amend section 4, to amend subsection (d) of section 4.1 to add sections 4.2 and 4.3, and to amend paragraph (1) of section 14 of the act, approved the twentieth day of May, one thousand nine hundred fifteen (Pamphlet Laws 566), entitled "An act requiring cities of the first class to establish a pension fund for employes of said cities, and all county or other public employes, if any, paid by appropriation of the city councils thereof, and out of the treasury of said cities; and regulating the administration and the payment of such pensions," by clarifying the amount of contributions by certain pensioners and the method of computing lesser pensions, changing date of completing certain payments and the age to which pension increments may be computed, fixing minimum pensions, and providing benefits for surviving spouse.

Cities of the first class—pension fund.

Section 4, act of May 20, 1915, P. L. 566, as last amended by act of May 2, 1949, P. L. 852, further amended.

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

Section 1. Section 4 of the act, approved the twentieth day of May, one thousand nine hundred fifteen (Pamphlet Laws 566), entitled "An act requiring cities of the first class to establish a pension fund for employes of said cities, and all county or other public employes, if any, paid by appropriation of the city councils thereof, and out of the treasury of said cities; and regulating the administration and the payment of such pensions," as last amended by the act, approved the second day of May, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 852), is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Amount of pension.

Section 4. During the lifetime of the said person he or she shall be entitled to receive a pension, from the fund set aside for the purpose, of fifty per centum of the amount which would constitute the average rate of