

No. 413

AN ACT

Authorizing the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to acquire, by gift, on behalf of the Commonwealth, the real property known as Graeme Park in Horsham Township, Montgomery County; providing for its control, management, supervision, restoration, improvement and maintenance; and making an appropriation.

Preamble.

Whereas, Graeme Park, originally called Fountain Low, is a landmark of Pennsylvania's colonial history as the residence of Sir William Keith, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, from 1717 to 1726, for whom the house was completed in 1722; and

Whereas, Graeme Park later came into the possession of a leading physician, Dr. Thomas Graeme, one of the founders of the St. Andrew's Society and a member of the American Philosophical Society, and he and his daughter, Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson, made it a center of social life visited by all the notables of the colonial period; and

Whereas, the house itself is noted for its architectural features and especially for its distinctive interior, elegantly formal rooms with wood panelling, pedimented doorways and fine mantels, still preserved intact after more than two centuries; and

Whereas, the owners of the property fully aware of its many important historical associations and actuated by generous impulse wish to present it to the public as a significant historic monument; therefore,

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

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission authorized to accept Graeme Park, in Horsham Township, Montgomery County.

Section 1. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is hereby authorized and empowered to accept on behalf of the Commonwealth the gift of the real property, known as Graeme Park, in Horsham Township, Montgomery County, the said property containing forty-five (45) acres, more or less.

Title and approval.

Section 2. The title to said real estate shall be taken in the name of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and shall before its acquisition be approved by the Department of Justice.

Commission's powers and duties.

Section 3. Upon acquiring the property aforesaid, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission shall have full control, management and supervision thereof, and shall have power to adopt and carry into effect plans for the restoration, improvement and maintenance.

nance of the property, and to make and enforce rules and regulations for the preservation of the property and the visitation thereof by the public.

Section 4. The sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby specifically appropriated to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for the maintenance, improvement and management of the lands and structures acquired under the provisions of this act for the biennium beginning the first day of June, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven. Appropriation.

APPROVED—The 17th day of July, A. D. 1957.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 414

AN ACT

Amending the act of May 23, 1949 (P. L. 1669), entitled, as amended, "An act to provide revenue for school districts of the first class by imposing a tax on persons engaging in certain businesses, professions, occupations, trades, vocations and commercial activities therein; providing for its levy and collection; conferring and imposing powers and duties on the Board of Public Education, receiver of school taxes and school treasurer in such districts; and prescribing penalties," further defining "receipts," making such definitions retroactive, and limiting the penalty of taxes not paid when due.

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

Section 1. Clause (5) of section 1 of the act of May 23, 1949 (P. L. 1669), entitled, as amended, "An act to provide revenue for school districts of the first class by imposing a tax on persons engaging in certain businesses, professions, occupations, trades, vocations and commercial activities therein; providing for its levy and collection; conferring and imposing powers and duties on the Board of Public Education, receiver of school taxes and school treasurer in such districts; and prescribing penalties," amended February 10, 1956 (P. L. 1012), February 10, 1956 (P. L. 1014), February 10, 1956 (P. L. 1034), and May 25, 1956 (P. L. 1754), is amended to read:

Section 1. Definitions.—The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

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(5) "Receipts." Cash, credits, property of any kind or nature, received in or allocable to a school district

Taxation—  
school districts  
of the first class.

Clause (5), section 1, act of May 23, 1949, P. L. 1669, as amended, and amended, February 10, 1956, P. L. 1012, February 10, 1956, P. L. 1014, February 10, 1956, P. L. 1034, and May 25, 1956, P. L. 1754, further amended.