

No. 1986-104

AN ACT

HB 2104

Amending the act of July 1, 1978 (P.L.584, No.109), entitled "An act establishing an agency to create the linkage necessary for the planning of an economic development system for Pennsylvania, and making an appropriation," further providing for powers and duties of council, and for the operation and functions of area labor management committees.

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

Section 1. Section 6 of the act of July 1, 1978 (P.L.584, No.109), known as the Milrite Act, is amended to read:

Section 6. Powers and duties of council.

(1) Undertake research and investigation relating to the promotion of the industrial potential of Pennsylvania.

(2) Create plans for economic revitalization of Commonwealth industries.

(3) Recommend implementation procedures for all plans, maximizing existing mechanisms with proven ability to accomplish tasks, linkages among current programs, business, labor and government insights into practicality and workability of suggested approaches.

(4) Encourage and stimulate cooperation and coordination among Federal, State and local programs.

(5) Recommend structural changes and updating of economic delivery tools of State Government to the Governor and General Assembly.

(6) Draw upon labor, management and government participants to promulgate plans and implement procedures.

(7) Recommend organizational structure and participants particularly suited to local needs and conditions.

(8) Undertake research, including the hiring of consultants, into the cost of doing business in this Commonwealth, including recommendations for changes and estimates of future costs, with comparative analysis of both intrastate and interstate costs.

(9) Undertake research, including the hiring of consultants, to determine if the Commonwealth can more effectively use its mediation services to discourage and shorten the duration of labor management disputes.

[8] (10) The council shall have the power to:

(i) Enter into contracts.

(ii) Appoint, fix compensation of, and prescribe duties of an executive director, secretary and such other personnel as the council deems necessary to accomplish the purposes of this act.

(iii) Retain counsel.

(iv) Accept grants from public and private sources.

(v) Borrow money and issue obligations, secured or unsecured, to acquire, hold, own and pledge or dispose of funds, money, securities and other property, real or personal, tangible or intangible to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

(vi) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations necessary to accomplish the provisions of this act.

Agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide their full cooperation to research conducted by the council, including, but not limited to, the provision of information necessary for conducting research under paragraphs (8) and (9).

Section 2. Section 6.1 of the act, added May 31, 1984 (P.L.378, No.77), is amended to read:

Section 6.1. Area labor management committees.

(a) The council shall establish standards and criteria for the selection of area labor management committees to be assisted by **[matching]** grants under subsection (c), solicit proposals from area labor management committees, review and evaluate the relative merits of such proposals and select those proposals for funding which would best meet the standards and criteria established by the council.

(b) The council may use a reasonable amount of any appropriation for grants to area labor management committees to hire staff and provide support for area labor management committees and for carrying out the purposes specified in subsection (a). *Funds shall be used for staff and other expenses necessary to perform outreach functions to those areas of the Commonwealth not served by area labor management committees.*

(c) The council shall designate the area labor management committees which are entitled to receive **[matching]** grants pursuant to subsection (a). Funds appropriated to the Department of Commerce for grants to area labor management committees shall be made to those committees, in amounts and under conditions specified by the council, *and under the following conditions:*

(1) The grant shall be matched with as much non-State funds as possible, within the overall goal of attempting to establish and maintain as many area labor management committees as possible.

(2) While the highest priority for these funds shall be for the establishment of new area labor management committees, the council shall make use of the money available to it for the grants to ensure the continued existence and expansion of existing area labor management committees, including the provisions of technical assistance and nonmatching grants.

(d) The council shall report annually to the chairman and minority chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the chairman and minority chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, the chairman and minority chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor and Industry and the chairman and minority chairman of the House Committee on Labor Relations, the accomplishments and specific expenditures of each area labor management committee funded under subsections (a) and (c) including, but not limited to, salaries, rent, contracts and other operational costs.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 9th day of July, A. D. 1986.

DICK THORNBURGH