THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL No. 379 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, STREET, KANE AND COSTA, MARCH 6, 2025

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, MARCH 6, 2025

AN ACT

1 2 3 4	Providing for reimbursement of Pennsylvania Turnpike tolls for certain companies; establishing the Pennsylvania Turnpike-to- Port Freight Reimbursement Fund; providing for duties of the Department of Transportation; and imposing penalties.
5	The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6	hereby enacts as follows:
7	Section 1. Short title.
8	This act shall be known and may be cited as the Pennsylvania
9	Turnpike-to-Port Freight Reimbursement Act.
10	Section 2. Definitions.
11	The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
12	have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
13	context clearly indicates otherwise:
14	"Company." Either of the following:
15	(1) A business that is a licensee of the Pennsylvania
16	Preferred $\ensuremath{\mathbb{B}}$ trademark under 3 Pa.C.S. Ch. 46 (relating to
17	Pennsylvania Preferred® trademark).
18	(2) A business that meets all of the following
19	requirements:

1 (i) Has a physical headquarters located in this 2 Commonwealth. 3 (ii) Is registered with the Department of State of the Commonwealth. 4 (iii) Grows or manufactures products in this 5 Commonwealth. 6 7 (iv) Uses the Pennsylvania Turnpike to transport 8 products to the Port of Philadelphia for the purpose of 9 shipping. "Department." The Department of Transportation of the 10 11 Commonwealth. "Fund." The Pennsylvania Turnpike-to-Port Freight 12 13 Reimbursement Fund established under section 3(a). 14 "Turnpike." The Pennsylvania Turnpike. 15 Section 3. Pennsylvania Turnpike-to-Port Freight Reimbursement 16 Fund. 17 Establishment.--The Pennsylvania Turnpike-to-Port (a) 18 Freight Reimbursement Fund is established in the State Treasury 19 for the purpose of reimbursing companies that pay tolls on the 20 turnpike to transport products to the Port of Philadelphia for 21 shipping. The money in the fund is appropriated on a continuing 22 basis to the department. 23 (b) Application for reimbursement. -- A company may apply to 24 the department for reimbursement from the fund. The department 25 shall provide an application form. A company shall submit all of 26 the following with the application: 27 (1) An itemized inventory of the products transported 28 via the turnpike. 29 The place of origin of the products. (2) The name and address of any shipping contractor used 30 (3)

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1 for transporting the products via the turnpike.

2 (4) Proof of payment of turnpike tolls by the company or3 shipping contractor.

4 (5) The date and time of the arrival of the products to5 the Port of Philadelphia.

6 (6) Documentation that the products were shipped from 7 the Port of Philadelphia, including the date of shipping, the 8 name of the ship and the destination of the products.

9 (7) The number of full-time, part-time and contract 10 employees with the company.

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(8) The annual revenues of the company.

12 (9) The history of the company, including when and where 13 it was founded and how it has grown from founding to the 14 present in terms of number of employees, revenues and 15 locations.

16 (c) Investigation of application.--The department shall 17 investigate and confirm the accuracy of an application under 18 subsection (b). The department may confer with the Pennsylvania 19 Turnpike Commission and the Port of Philadelphia to confirm the 20 accuracy of an application.

(d) Timing.--An application for reimbursement to the department shall be submitted on a quarterly basis. If sufficient money is available in the fund, the department shall reimburse a company within 60 days of the date that an application is confirmed to be accurate under subsection (c). Section 4. Penalties.

(a) Penalties.--If the department determines that a company
has submitted a false application or if the department
erroneously paid a reimbursement due to false information, the
company:

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1 (1) shall pay back the reimbursement, if any;

2 (2) is prohibited from seeking reimbursement from the3 fund; and

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(3) is subject to a \$5,000 fine.

5 (b) Deposit of fines.--Any fines collected under subsection6 (a) shall be deposited into the fund.

7 Section 5. Fund balance.

8 The fund balance shall be limited to \$2,500,000, and any 9 amount in excess of \$2,500,000 shall be transferred to the 10 General Fund.

11 Section 6. Reporting.

Beginning January 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the department shall submit an annual report of the fund to the General Assembly.

15 Section 7. Regulations.

16 The department, in consultation with the Pennsylvania 17 Turnpike Commission, may promulgate rules and regulations 18 necessary to administer and enforce this act.

19 Section 8. Effective date.

20 This act shall take effect in 60 days.

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