



**Housing Alliance  
of Pennsylvania**

**As of August 7, 2023, the Housing Alliance is tracking the following bills related to fighting blight.**

**Blight and Land Bank Legislation**

**SB 149—Sen. Jim Brewster:** Counties may charge a fee up to \$250 on the sale of property pursuant to mortgage foreclosure to be used to establish a demolition and rehab fund. The Fund would be available to any entity that contracts with the county or land bank / redevelopment authority. **Last Action:** Reported from Senate Appropriations June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**SB 466—Sen. Rosemary Brown—**Environmental Protection for Land Banks. Passed Senate, House Committee, and it was tabled in the House. **Last Action:** Laid on the Table in the House, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

**SB 517— Sen. Dave Argall:** Increases County Demolition Fund of up to \$1 at the discretion of each county and allows for inflation adjustments tied to Consumer Price Index. **Last Action:** Re-referred to Appropriations June 27<sup>th</sup>.

**SB 802— Sen. Frank Farry:** Would create a Blight Remediation Loan Fund for Redevelopment Authorities. DCED would offer low interest loans (2% per year) for Redevelopment Authorities. The legislation requests a \$10MM appropriation for max loans of \$500K. **Last Action:** Reported from Senate Urban Affairs and Housing Committee, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

**HB 255—Rep. Robert Merski—**Establishes a program to provide grants to municipalities to establish code enforcement programs and to hire code enforcement personnel. **Last Action:** Referred to Senate Urban Affairs and Housing Committee, June 13<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 775—Rep. Tim Twardzik—**Establishes the “Vacant Property Registration Act” that allows communities to create and maintain a vacant property registration, which is a blight fighting, smart growth tool used to stabilize and re-develop communities. **Last Action:** Laid on the Table (House), May 24<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 859—Rep. Dan Williams—**Provides local governments the power to deny a permit to an LLC not only when the LLC has delinquencies but also if one of the principals of the LLC has delinquencies in the municipality. **Last Action:** Passed the PA House 124-79 on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 1062—Rep. Mike Sturla:** Creates a statewide blight data collection system using property code violations. Managed by DCED, the Property Maintenance Code Violations Registry will be populated with property maintenance code violation reports filed by municipalities. **Last Action:** Re-committed to House Committee on Rules, June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 1090—Rep. Alec Ryncavage—** Would allow counties to enact a property maintenance ordinance to help ensure the health and safety of its residents as well as those who want to safeguard the value of their property. Notice of consideration on the ordinance must be published and the public will have access to the proposal before a county could enact it.

Counties that adopt a property maintenance ordinance will have enforcement power, including the ability to levy fines when properties are in violation of the ordinance. **Last Action:** Referred to House Housing and Community Development Committee on May 2, 2023.

**HB 1163—Rep. Abigail Salisbury:** Amends Title 68 to allow a municipality to designate a blighted or abandoned property as available for acquisition by a land bank. This would only be done if an owner demonstrates they are not using the property through years of neglect and abandonment. The bill will require a municipality to provide advance notification to a property owner and give ample opportunity for the owner to remediate the property. **Last Action:** Passed the House 130-73 on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 1207—Rep. Freeman:** Would permit a municipality of any size to establish a land bank. **Last Action:** Referred to Senate Urban Affairs and Housing on July 5, 2023 after passing House 147-56.

**HB 1347—Rep. Joe Hogan and Tina Davis:** Companion to SB 802. **Last Action:** Referred to House Housing and Community Development Committee on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

*This information is only current as of August 7, 2023 and is subject to change at a moment's notice.*