32:8-2

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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(Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission--allow veto of actions

by each Governor)

NJSA:

32:8-2

LAWS OF:

1994

CHAPTER: 173

BILL NO:

A1229

SPONSOR(S):

DeCroce and Catania

DATE INTRODUCED:

January 27, 1994

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY:

Transportation and Communication

SENATE:

Transportation

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:

No

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY:

February 17, 1994

SENATE:

November 10, 1994

DATE OF APPROVAL:

December 20, 1994

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT:

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY:

Yes

SENATE:

Yes

FISCAL NOTE:

No

VETO MESSAGE:

No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING:

No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

KBG:pp

P.L.1994, CHAPTER 173, approved December 20, 1994 1994 Assembly No. 1229

AN ACT concerning the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission and amending R.S.32:8-2, R.S.32:8-3 and R.S.32:8-10, authorizing the Governor, on behalf of the State of New Jersey to enter into a supplemental compact or agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania amending the compact or agreement between the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania entitled "Agreement between the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania creating the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission as a body corporate and politic and defining its powers and duties," as amended and supplemented, and authorizing the Governor to apply, on behalf of the State of New Jersey, to the Congress of the United States for its consent to such supplemental compact or agreement.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

- 1. The Governor is authorized to enter into a supplemental compact or agreement, on behalf of the State of New Jersey, with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania amending Articles I, II, and IX of the compact or agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey entitled "Agreement Between the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania creating the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission as a body corporate and politic and defining its powers and duties," as set forth in this 1993 amendatory act.
- 2. Article I of the "Agreement Between the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania creating the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission as a body corporate and politic and defining its power and duties," as amended and supplemented (R.S.32:8-1 et seq.), is amended to read as follows:

R.S.32:8-2. There is hereby created a body corporate and politic, to be known as the "Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission" (hereinafter in this agreement called the "commission"), which shall consist of the commissioners, on behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, provided for by the act, approved the eighth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Lews, one hundred forty-eight), and its supplements and amendments, for the acquisition of toll bridges over the Delaware river, and of commissioners, on behalf of the State of New Jersey, provided for by the act, approved the first day of April, one thousand nine hundred and twelve (Chapter two

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

hundred ninety-seven), and its supplements and amendments, for the acquisition of toll bridges over the Delaware river, which said commissions have heretofore been acting as a joint commission by virtue of reciprocal legislation.

No action of the commission shall be binding unless a majority of the members of the commission from Pennsylvania and a majority of the members of the commission from New Jersey shall vote in favor thereof.

In the event that any ex-officio member of the commission from Pennsylvania shall for any reason be absent from a meeting of the commission, a deputy or other person in his department designated by him for such purpose shall be authorized to act at such meeting for and in behalf of such absent member and to vote in his place on all matters which may be presented for consideration at such meeting. Such designation shall be signed by such ex-officio member and filed with the secretary of the commission and shall continue in effect until the expiration of the term of office of such member or until another designation shall be made.

In the event that any ex-officio member of the commission from New Jersey shall for any reason be absent from a meeting of the commission, a deputy or other person in the ex-officio member's department designated by the ex-officio member for such purpose shall be authorized to act at such meeting for and in behalf of such absent member and to vote in the member's place on all matters which may be presented for consideration at such meeting. Such designation shall be signed by the ex-officio member and filed with the secretary of the commission and shall continue in effect until the expiration of the term of office of such member or until another designation shall be made.

The commission shall constitute the public corporate instrumentality of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey for the following public purposes, and shall be deemed to be exercising an essential governmental function in effectuating such purposes, to wit:

- (a) The administration, operation, and maintenance of the joint State-owned bridges across the Delaware river between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey, and located north of the present stone arch bridge of the Pennsylvania Railroad across the Delaware river from Morrisville to Trenton:
- (b) The investigation of the necessity for additional bridge communications over the Delaware river, and the making of such studies, surveys and estimates as may be necessary to determine the feasibility and cost of such additional bridge communications;
- (c) The preparation of plans and specifications for, and location, acquisition, construction, administration, operation and maintenance of, such additional bridge communications over the Delaware river, at any location north of the boundary line between Bucks county and Philadelphia county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as extended across the Delaware river to the New Jersey shore of said river, as the commission deems necessary to advance the interests of the two States and to facilitate public travel; and the issuance of bonds and

obligations to provide moneys sufficient for the acquisition or construction of such bridges; and the collection of tolls, rentals, and charges for the redemption of such bonds and obligations, and the payment of interest thereon;

- (d) The procurement from the Government of the United States of any consents which may be requisite to enable the commission to exercise any of its powers;
- (e) The investigation of the necessity for additional port and terminal facilities within the area (hereinafter referred to as the "district') comprising all of the territory within the counties of Bucks, Northampton, Monroe and Pike in Pennsylvania, all of the territory within the counties of Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon and Mercer in New Jersey, and that part of the territory within the county of Burlington in New Jersey north of the northerly bank of Rancocas Creek as said creek and its north branch extend in a general easterly direction from the Delaware river and through Mount Holly, Pemberton and Browns Mills and other communities to the Burlington-Ocean County boundary line in New Jersey;
 - (f) The acquisition, construction, administration, operation and maintenance of such port and terminal facilities within the district as the commission may deem necessary to advance the interests of the two States; the issuance of bonds or other obligations of the commission to provide moneys sufficient for the acquisition or construction of such facilities; and the collection of fees, rentals, tolls and other charges for the payment of such bonds or obligations and the interest thereon, and for the administration, operation and maintenance of such facilities.
- 29 (cf: P.L.1952, c.333, s.1)

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3. Article II of the agreement (R.S.32:8-3) is amended to read as follows:

R.S.32:8-3. For the effectuation of its authorized purposes, the commission is hereby granted the following powers as limited and supplemented by P.L., c. (C.)(now before the Legislature as Assembly Bill No. 1232 of 1994 and P.L., c. (C.)(now before the Legislature as Assembly Bill No. 1233 of 1994):

- (a) To have perpetual succession.
- (b) To sue and be sued.
- (c) To adopt and use an official seal.
- (d) To elect a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer and appoint an engineer. The secretary, treasurer, and engineer need not be members of the commission.
 - (e) To adopt suitable by-laws for the management of its affairs.
- (f) To appoint such other officers, agents and employees as it may require for the performance of its duties.
- (g) To determine the qualifications and duties of its appointees, and to fix their compensation, except that the commission shall not employ directly or as an independent contractor a member of the commission for a period of two years after the expiration of the term of office of that member.
 - (h) To enter into contracts.
- (i) To acquire, own, hire, use, operate, and dispose of personal
 property.
 - (j) To acquire, own, use, lease, operate, and dispose of real

property and interest in real property, and to make improvements thereon.

- (k) To grant the use of, by franchise, lease, and otherwise, and to make and collect charges for the use of, any property or facility owned or controlled by it.
- (1) To borrow money upon its bonds or other obligations, either with or without security.
 - (m) To exercise the power of eminent domain.

- (n) To determine the exact location, system, and character of, and all other matters in connection with, any and all improvements or facilities which it may be authorized to own, construct, establish, effectuate, maintain, operate or control.
- (o) In addition to the foregoing powers, to exercise the powers, duties, authority and jurisdiction heretofore conferred and imposed upon the aforesaid commissions, hereby constituted a joint commission by reciprocal legislation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey, with respect to the acquisition of toll bridges over the Delaware river, the management, operation and maintenance of such bridges, and the location, acquisition, construction, administration, operation and maintenance of additional bridge communications over the Delaware river at any location north of the boundary line between Bucks county and Philadelphia county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as extended across the Delaware river to the New Jersey shore of said river. The powers granted in this paragraph shall be in addition to those powers granted by paragraph (a) of Article X of this agreement.
- (p) To exercise all other powers, not inconsistent with the Constitutions of the States of Pennsylvania and New Jersey or of the United States, which may be reasonably necessary or incidental to the effectuation of its authorized purposes or to the exercise of any of the powers granted to the commission by this agreement or any amendment thereof or supplement thereto, except the power to levy taxes or assessments for benefits; and generally to exercise, in connection with its property and affairs and in connection with property under its control, any and all powers which might be exercised by a natural person or a private corporation in connection with similar property and affairs.
- (q) To acquire, construct, rehabilitate, improve, maintain, lease as lessor or as lessee, repair and operate port and terminal facilities as hereinafter defined within the district, including the dredging of ship channels and turning basins and the filling and grading of land therefor.
- (r) To provide from time to time for the issuance of its bonds or other obligations for any one or more of its corporate purposes; all bonds and other obligations hereafter issued by the commission shall have all the qualities and incidents of negotiable instruments.
- (s) To fix, charge, and collect fees, rentals, tolls and other charges for the use of any of its port and terminal facilities so as to provide funds at least sufficient, with other funds available for such purposes (1) to pay the cost of maintaining, repairing and operating such port and terminal facilities, including the administrative expenses of the commission chargeable thereto,

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(2) to pay the bonds or other obligations issued on account of such facilities and the interest thereon as the same become due and payable, and (3) to provide reserves for such purposes, and to pledge such funds, over and above such costs of maintenance, repair and operation, to the payment of such bonds or other obligations and the interest thereon.

(t) To petition the Interstate Commerce Commission, any public service or public utilities commission, or any other Federal, State or local authority, whether administrative, judicial or legislative, for the adoption and execution of any physical improvement, change in method, rate of transportation, system of handling freight, warehousing, docking, lightering or transfer of freight, which, in the opinion of the commission, may be designed to improve or facilitate the movement or handling of commerce within the district or improve the terminal or transportation facilities therein.

As used in this agreement the term "port and terminal facilities" shall mean and shall include, without intending thereby to limit the definition of such term, any one or more of the following or any combination thereof:

- (1) every kind of terminal or storage structure or facility now in use or hereafter designed for use in the handling, storage, loading or unloading of freight or passengers at steamship, railroad or motor terminals or airports, and every kind of transportation facility now in use or hereafter designed for use in connection therewith; and
- (2) all real and personal property and all works, buildings, structures, equipment, machinery, appliances and appurtenances necessary or convenient for the proper construction, equipment, maintenance and operation of such facility or facilities or any one or more of them.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this agreement or any provision of law, State or Federal, to the contrary, the commission may combine for financing purposes any port and terminal facility or facilities constructed or acquired by it under the provisions of this agreement with any bridge or bridges heretofore or hereafter constructed or acquired by the commission, subject to any limitations contained in any trust indenture securing bonds of the commission at the time outstanding.

The powers herein granted to the commission with reference to port and terminal facilities shall supersede the right to exercise any such powers within the district, as defined in paragraph (e) of Article I of this agreement, by any other body which has been heretofore created by compact or agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey.

Nothing contained in any other of the provisions of this compact or agreement shall be deemed or construed to amend, modify or repeal any of the powers, rights or duties conferred by, or limitations or restrictions expressed in, Article X of this compact or agreement, or any of the provisions of said Article X relating to a bridge to be constructed, operated and maintained by the Pennsylvania Tumpike Commission or the New Jersey Tumpike Authority, acting alone or in conjunction with each other.

Notwithstanding the above, each state reserves the right to provide by law for the exercise of a veto power by the Governor of that state over any action of any commissioner from that state at any time within 10 days (Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays in the particular state excepted) after receipt at the Governor's office of a certified copy of the minutes of the meeting at which such vote was taken. Each state may provide by law for the manner of delivery of such minutes, and for notification of the action thereon.

(cf: P.L.1952, c.333, s.1)

4. Article IX of the agreement (R.S.32:8-10) is amended to read as follows:

R.S.32:8-10. The commission shall make annual reports to the Governors and Legislatures of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey, setting forth in detail its operations and transactions, and may make such additional reports, from time to time, to the Governors and Legislatures as it may deem advisable.

The Auditor General of Pennsylvania and the State Auditor of New Jersey shall jointly conduct annual financial and management audits of expenditures and operations of the commission and shall submit a report of those audits to the Governors and Legislatures of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey.

(cf: P.L.1947, c.283, s.1)

- 5. The Governor is authorized to apply, on behalf of the State of New Jersey, to the Congress of the United States for its consent and approval to such supplemental compact or agreement, but in the absence of such consent and approval, the commission referred to in such supplemental compact or agreement shall have all of the powers which the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey may confer upon it without the consent and approval of Congress.
- 6. This act shall take effect immediately; but the Governor shall not enter into the supplemental compact or agreement hereinabove set forth on behalf of the State of New Jersey until passage by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania of a substantially similar act embodying the supplemental compact or agreement between the two States.

STATEMENT

 This bill would amend R.S.32:8-1 et seq. containing the compact between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey creating the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission. The bill would allow for ex officio members of the commission from the State of New Jersey to appoint designees. Companion legislation, Assembly Bill No. 1231 of 1994, increases the membership of the commission by adding the Commissioner of Transportation and the State Treasurer as ex officio members.

In addition, the bill provides that certain powers of the commission may be limited and supplemented by bi-State

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legislation by companion legislation. Assembly Bill No. 1232 of 1994 would require the commission to adopt an affirmative action program and open and competitive hiring policies and Assembly Bill No. 1233 of 1994 would require the commission to adopt competitive purchasing practices.

The bill further provides that the commission could not employ directly, or as an independent contractor, a member of the commission for a period of two years after the expiration of the term of office of that member.

The bill also permits each State to provide by law for the exercise of a veto power by the governor thereof over any action of any commissioner from that state.

Finally, the bill requires the Auditor General of Pennsylvania and the State Auditor of New Jersey to jointly conduct annual financial and management audits of the expenditures and operations of the commission. A report of those audits would be submitted to the Governors and Legislatures of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The approval of Congress and the enactment by Pennsylvania of substantially similar legislation will be required before the supplemental compact authorized by this bill may be entered into although the commission shall have those powers which the States may confer without the consent of Congress.

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Permits New Jersey and Pennsylvania to enact law giving Governor veto power over Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission minutes; authorizes New Jersey ex officio members to appoint designees.

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Notwithstanding the above, each state reserves the right to provide by law for the exercise of a veto power by the Governor of that state over any action of any commissioner from that state at any time within 10 days (Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays in the particular state excepted) after receipt at the Governor's office of a certified copy of the minutes of the meeting at which such vote was taken. Each state may provide by law for the manner of delivery of such minutes, and for notification of the action thereon.

(cf: P.L.1952, c.333, s.1)

4. Article IX of the agreement (R.S.32:8-10) is amended to read as follows:

R.S.32:8-10. The commission shall make annual reports to the Governors and Legislatures of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey, setting forth in detail its operations and transactions, and may make such additional reports, from time to time, to the Governors and Legislatures as it may deem advisable.

The Auditor General of Pennsylvania and the State Auditor of New Jersey shall jointly conduct annual financial and management audits of expenditures and operations of the commission and shall submit a report of those audits to the Governors and Legislatures of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey.

(cf: P.L.1947, c.283, s.1)

- 5. The Governor is authorized to apply, on behalf of the State of New Jersey, to the Congress of the United States for its consent and approval to such supplemental compact or agreement, but in the absence of such consent and approval, the commission referred to in such supplemental compact or agreement shall have all of the powers which the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey may confer upon it without the consent and approval of Congress.
- 6. This act shall take effect immediately; but the Governor shall not enter into the supplemental compact or agreement hereinabove set forth on behalf of the State of New Jersey until passage by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania of a substantially similar act embodying the supplemental compact or agreement between the two States.

STATEMENT

This bill would amend R.S.32:8-1 et seq. containing the compact between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey creating the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission. The bill would allow for ex officio members of the commission from the State of New Jersey to appoint designees. Companion legislation, Assembly Bill No. 1231 of 1994, increases the membership of the commission by adding the Commissioner of Transportation and the State Treasurer as ex officio members.

In addition, the bill provides that certain powers of the commission may be limited and supplemented by bi-State

legislation by companion legislation. Assembly Bill No. 1232 of 1994 would require the commission to adopt an affirmative action program and open and competitive hiring policies and Assembly Bill No. 1233 of 1994 would require the commission to adopt competitive purchasing practices.

The bill further provides that the commission could not employ directly, or as an independent contractor, a member of the commission for a period of two years after the expiration of the term of office of that member.

The bill also permits each State to provide by law for the exercise of a veto power by the governor thereof over any action of any commissioner from that state.

Finally, the bill requires the Auditor General of Pennsylvania and the State Auditor of New Jersey to jointly conduct annual financial and management audits of the expenditures and operations of the commission. A report of those audits would be submitted to the Governors and Legislatures of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The approval of Congress and the enactment by Pennsylvania of substantially similar legislation will be required before the supplemental compact authorized by this bill may be entered into although the commission shall have those powers which the States may confer without the consent of Congress.

 Permits New Jersey and Pennsylvania to enact law giving Governor veto power over Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission minutes; authorizes New Jersey ex officio members to appoint designees.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1229

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 7, 1994

The Assembly Transportation and Communications Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1229.

This bill would amend R.S.32:8-1 et seq. containing the compact between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey creating the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission. The bill would allow for ex officio members of the commission from the State of New Jersey to appoint designees. Companion legislation, Assembly Bill No. 1231 of 1994, increases the membership of the commission by adding the Commissioner of Transportation and the State Treasurer as ex officio members.

In addition, the bill provides that certain powers of the commission may be limited and supplemented, by bi-State legislation, pursuant to companion legislation to this bill. Specifically, Assembly Bill No. 1232 of 1994 would require the commission to adopt an affirmative action program and open and competitive hiring policies and Assembly Bill No. 1233 of 1994 would require the commission to adopt competitive purchasing practices.

The bill further provides that the commission could not employ directly, or as an independent contractor, a member of the commission for a period of two years after the expiration of the term of office of that member.

The bill also permits each State to provide by law for the exercise of a veto power by the governor thereof over any action of any commissioner from that state.

Finally, the bill requires the Auditor General of Pennsylvania and the State Auditor of New Jersey to jointly conduct annual financial and management audits of the expenditures and operations of the commission. A report of those audits would be submitted to the Governors and Legislatures of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The approval of Congress and the enactment by Pennsylvania of substantially similar legislation will be required before the supplemental compact authorized by this bill may be entered into, although the commission shall have those powers which the States may confer without the consent of Congress.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1229

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 21, 1994

The Senate Transportation Committee favorably reports Assembly Bill No. 1229.

This bill would amend R.S.32:8-1 et seq. containing the compact between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey creating the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission. The bill would allow for ex officio members of the commission from the State of New Jersey to appoint designees. Companion legislation, Assembly Bill No. 1231 of 1994, increases the membership of the commission by adding the Commissioner of Transportation and the State Treasurer as ex officio members.

In addition, the bill provides that certain powers of the commission may be limited and supplemented, by bi-State legislation, pursuant to companion legislation to this bill. Specifically, Assembly Bill No. 1232 of 1994 would require the commission to adopt an affirmative action program and open and competitive hiring policies and Assembly Bill No. 1233 of 1994 would require the commission to adopt competitive purchasing practices.

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Finally, the bill requires the Auditor General of Pennsylvania and the State Auditor of New Jersey to jointly conduct annual financial and management audits of the expenditures and operations of the commission. A report of those audits would be submitted to the Governors and Legislatures of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

The approval of Congress and the enactment by Pennsylvania of substantially similar legislation will be required before the supplemental compact authorized by this bill may be entered into, although the commission shall have those powers which the States may confer without the consent of Congress.

This bill is substantially identical to S-634, released by the committee on the same date.