

R.S. 32:27-1

LEGISLATIVE FACT SHEET

ON

N.J.R.S. 32:27-1 (*Delaware Valley Urban Area Compact*)
(1966 Amendment)

LAWS OF 1966

CHAPTER 149

SENATE 351

~~ASSEMBLY~~

INTRODUCED *Apr 18, 1966*

BY *Ridolfi [and 4 others]*

STATEMENT

☒ YES

NO

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE

☒ YES

NO

HEARING

VETO

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SENATE, No. 351

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED APRIL 18, 1966

By Senators RIDOLFI, FORSYTHE, BIGLEY, SCHOLZ and HUNT

Referred to Committee on Federal and Interstate Relations

AN ACT to create a regional agency by intergovernmental compact for the continuing comprehensive, co-ordinated regional planning for the Delaware Valley Urban Area, and defining the functions, powers and duties of such agency.

1 WHEREAS, By an agreement dated January 23, 1959, the State of New Jersey,
2 and the counties of Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer, all in
3 the State of New Jersey, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and
4 the counties of Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery and the city
5 of Philadelphia, all in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, provided for
6 transportation planning in the Delaware Valley Urban Area and estab-
7 lished therefor an organization known as the Penn Jersey Transporta-
8 tion Study, which has been in operation since that time; and

9 WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsyl-
10 vania now desire to create a successor to the said Penn Jersey
11 Transportation Study in the form of a body politic and corporate to
12 carry on the continuing comprehensive, co-ordinated transportation and
13 regional planning study and process for the Delaware Valley Urban
14 Area; and

15 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States of America has, by the enact-
16 ment of Public Law 87-866, 1962, declared it to be in the national in-

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

17 terest to encourage and promote the development of transportation
 18 systems that will serve the States and local communities efficiently and
 19 effectively; and

20 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States of America has by the enact-
 21 ment of Public Law 86-372, 1959, authorized the Administrator of the
 22 Housing and Home Finance Agency to make planning grants to official
 23 regional planning agencies empowered by interstate compact to perform
 24 metropolitan or regional planning and by Public Law 87-70, 1961, gave
 25 its prior consent to such compacts; now, therefore,

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

1 1. The State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 2 hereby solemnly covenant and agree with each other, upon the enactment
 3 by each of them of legislation having the same effect as this section, to the
 4 following compact:

PART I

COMPACT

ARTICLE I

SHORT TITLE, DEFINITIONS, PURPOSE AND LIMITATIONS

1 1. Short title—This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Delaware Valley Urban Area Compact.”

3 2. Definitions—For the purpose of this compact, and of any supplemental
 4 or concurring legislation enacted pursuant thereto, except where such mean-
 5 ing is obviously inapplicable, the following words and phrases shall mean:

6 (a) The commission—The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commis-
 7 sion;

8 (b) Delaware Valley Urban Area—The area included within the coun-
 9 ties of Burlington, Camden, Gloucester and Mercer in the State of New Jersey,

10 and the counties of Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery and the city of
11 Philadelphia in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

12 (c) Area—The Delaware Valley Urban Area;

13 (d) Commissioners—The members of the commission;

14 (e) Board—The body composed of the members of the commission;

15 (f) Federal Government—The Government of the United States of
16 America and any branch, department, bureau or division thereof, as the case
17 may be;

18 (g) Federal Representative—Any individual duly authorized to repre-
19 sent the Federal Government.

20 3. Purpose and findings—The legislative bodies of the signatory parties
21 hereby find and declare that the transportation and land resources of the
22 area are affected with a local, State, regional and national interest and their
23 planning under appropriate arrangements for interstate co-operation, is a
24 public purpose of the respective signatory parties.

25 In general, the purposes of this compact are to organize and conduct
26 a continuing, comprehensive, co-ordinated regional planning program for the
27 area, including but not limited to transportation planning for the interests
28 and purposes, consistent with its annual budgets, of the agencies of New
29 Jersey and Pennsylvania represented by commissioners as well as for the
30 purposes of the local governments and their planning agencies.

31 4. This compact shall be construed liberally to effectuate its purposes.
32 Nothing herein shall be deemed in any way to limit or restrict the power of
33 one or both of the party States, by law or otherwise, to deal independently
34 with respect to any matter within the scope of this compact.

35 5. Amendments and supplements to this compact to implement the pur-
36 poses thereof may be adopted by concurrent legislation of the party States.

37 6. If any part or provision of this compact or the application thereof to
38 any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent
39 jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part, pro-
40 vision, or application directly involved in the controversy in which such judg-
41 ment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of

42 the remainder of this compact or the application thereof to other persons or
 43 circumstances, and the party States hereby declare that they would have en-
 44 tered into this compact or the remainder thereof had the invalidity of such
 45 provision or application thereof been apparent.

46 7. Duration of compact—This compact shall continue in existence until
 47 ****[March 1]** **December 31****, 1969. Thereafter it shall continue only upon
 48 the adoption of concurrent legislation by the party States.

ARTICLE II

ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

1 1. Commission created—The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Com-
 2 mission is hereby created as a body politic and corporate, with succession
 3 for the duration of this compact, as an agency and instrumentality of the
 4 governments of the respective signatory parties.

5 2. Commission membership—The commission shall consist of the follow-
 6 ing members to be known as commissioners:

7 The Commissioner of Highways of the State of New Jersey, ex officio,
 8 The Secretary of Highways of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ex
 9 officio,

10 The Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development, State
 11 of New Jersey, ex officio,

12 The Executive Director, State Planning Board, Commonwealth of Penn-
 13 sylvania, ex officio,

14 An appointee of the Governor of New Jersey who shall be a resident of
 15 New Jersey and the area, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

16 An appointee of the Governor of Pennsylvania by and with the consent
 17 of the Senate, who shall be a resident of Pennsylvania and the area, and
 18 shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

19 A representative from each of the 4 New Jersey counties and 4 Penn-
 20 sylvania counties included in the area, and

21 One representative each from the cities of Camden, Trenton, Philadel-
 22 phia and Chester.

23 3. Appointment of members—The said representative from each of
24 the aforesaid political subdivisions shall be appointed by the governing
25 bodies thereof, and serve at the pleasure of the appointing power.

26 4. Voting power—A quorum of the commission for the purpose of trans-
27 acting business at any commission meeting shall exist only when there are
28 present, in person, at least 5 members or alternates from each of the party
29 States including at least 2 of 3 State officials or appointees or their alter-
30 nates from each State. No action of the commission shall be effective or
31 binding unless a majority of each party State's representatives who are
32 present at such meeting, including at least 2 of the 3 State's officials or ap-
33 pointees or their alternates, shall vote in favor thereof. Certified copies of
34 the minutes of each commission meeting shall be sent to each of the Gover-
35 nors of the party States within 10 days of said meeting. ****[Each party State**
36 **shall have the right to provide by law for the exercise of a veto over any**
37 **action of any State official or appointee or alternate thereof.]****

38 5. Officers—The board shall elect a chairman, vice-chairman, a secretary
39 and a treasurer from among its membership and may elect such other officers
40 as it desires from among its membership. The vice-chairman, and either the
41 secretary or treasurer, shall not reside in the same State as the chairman.
42 The chairman and vice-chairman shall be elected from among the State
43 officials or appointees of each party State.

44 6. Meeting dates—The board may establish regular meeting dates and
45 hold such special meetings as it desires upon call of the chairman after at
46 least 10 days' notice.

47 7. Compensation—None of the commissioners or their alternates shall be
48 entitled to any compensation for the performance of their duties but shall be
49 entitled to reimbursement for necessary travel and other expenses incurred
50 by them in their performance of such duties.

51 8. Organization, procedure, powers and duties—The board shall provide
52 for procedure and shall adopt rules and regulations governing its meetings
53 and transactions.

54 9. Executive Committee; meetings, powers and duties—

55 (a) The Executive Committee of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning
56 Commission shall consist of the following commissioners:

57 The 4 ex officio members or their alternates,

58 The 2 appointees of the Governors,

59 One representative to be chosen by the 4 New Jersey county members of
60 the commission,

61 One representative to be chosen by the 4 Pennsylvania county members
62 of the commission,

63 The representatives of the cities of Camden and Philadelphia.

64 (b) A quorum of the Executive Committee for the purpose of transact-
65 ing business at any committee meeting shall exist only when there are pres-
66 ent, in person, at least 3 members or alternates from each of the party
67 States including at least 2 of 3 State officials or appointees or their alter-
68 nates from each State. No action of the committee shall be effective or bind-
69 ing unless a majority of each party State's representatives who are present
70 at such meeting, including at least 2 of the 3 State's officials or appointees
71 or their alternates, shall vote in favor thereof. Certified copies of the minutes
72 of each committee meeting shall be sent to each of the Governors of the party
73 States within 10 days of said meeting. ****[Each party State shall have the**
74 **right to provide by law for the exercise of a veto over any action of any**
75 **State official or appointee or alternate thereof.]****

76 (c) The Executive Committee may elect a chairman, vice-chairman and
77 a secretary from among its membership and may elect such other officers as
78 it desires from among its members. The chairman and vice-chairman shall
79 not reside in the same State. The chairman and vice-chairman shall be elected
80 from among the State officials or appointees of each party State. The Execu-
81 tive Committee shall establish regular meeting dates and may call special
82 meetings upon call of its chairman after 5 days' notice.

83 In addition to the powers and duties conferred upon the Executive Com-
84 mittee by this act, it shall have such other duties as the board shall from
85 time to time delegate to it.

ARTICLE III

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION, THE BOARD

AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1 1. The commission shall have the following powers:

2 (a) To adopt and use a corporate seal;

3 (b) To acquire by purchase, lease, gift or governmental appropriation
4 such estates or interests in real and personal property as are necessary or
5 required for its operations;

6 (c) To contract in all respects necessary or convenient for its opera-
7 tions;

8 (d) To employ and discharge or to contract with such personnel as are
9 necessary or convenient for its operations and to fix their compensation;

10 (e) To adopt by-laws and to rescind, amend or supplement the same
11 from time to time;

12 (f) To adopt, promulgate and publish rules and regulations as are de-
13 termined necessary in the performance of its functions;

14 (g) To provide services for governmental bodies and public and
15 business organizations consistent with the purposes of this act and to receive
16 compensation therefor;

17 (h) To do any and all things necessary, convenient or incidental within
18 the scope of its corporate purposes.

19 2. The commission shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

20 The commission shall have the responsibility of providing for the
21 needs of the highway departments of the signatory parties in order that the
22 States may qualify for all funds available to them from the Federal Gov-
23 ernment for the construction of highway facilities in the area and meet with
24 the other planning needs of the said highway departments in the area. The
25 commission shall also have the responsibility of providing for regional plan-
26 ning and the meeting and satisfaction of regional transportation planning re-
27 quirements in order that the area may qualify for all funds available to it

28 from the Federal Government of mass transportation facilities and services
29 in the area. The commission shall also have the responsibility for meeting
30 the needs of the New Jersey Department of Conservation and Economic
31 Development and the Pennsylvania State Planning Board as required to obtain
32 funds from the Federal Government available for such purposes as well as
33 their other operations. The commission shall co-operate with all other State
34 and local government agencies which have planning needs in the area. The
35 commission shall serve as an advisory agency, with actual authority for carry-
36 ing out planning proposals continuing to rest in the governing bodies of the
37 States and counties. It shall initiate and develop surveys and plans of a
38 regional nature and assist through co-ordination and planning programs in-
39 volving regional matters of the planning bodies of the participants. The
40 commission shall not assume any existing powers or functions of such plan-
41 ning commissions. It shall be the function and duty of the commission to
42 make a master plan and such survey and studies as may be essential thereto
43 for the physical development of the area and submit said plan to the par-
44 ticipating governmental bodies. The commission shall encourage and pro-
45 mote the co-operation among all levels of government for the purpose of
46 achieving the greatest possible benefit both economic and cultural for the in-
47 habitants of the Delaware Valley Urban Area.

48 3. Powers and duties of the board—The board shall have the following
49 powers and duties:

50 (a) To create and define the duties of the office of Executive Director
51 and upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee to appoint per-
52 sons to that office to serve at the pleasure of the board.

53 (b) To create and define the duties of such committees, other than the
54 Executive Committee, as it shall deem proper and necessary to the operation
55 of the commission and appoint the membership thereof.

56 (c) To approve and adopt not later than March 1 of each year a work
57 program for the next fiscal year as submitted to it by the Executive Com-
58 mittee.

59 (d) To exercise and perform all the powers and duties granted to and
 60 imposed upon the commission except those powers and duties expressly dele-
 61 gated or imposed by this compact to or upon the Executive Committee.

62 4. Powers and duties of the Executive Committee—The Executive Com-
 63 mittee shall have the following powers:

64 (a) To exercise on behalf of the commission all the powers granted the
 65 commission by section 1, subsections (b), (c) and (d) of this article;

66 (b) The general supervision of the conduct of operations of the com-
 67 mission including individual projects;

68 (c) To manage the fiscal affairs of the commission and to prepare and
 69 adopt an annual budget not later than March 15 for each fiscal year beginning
 70 July 1 of each calendar year and ending June 30 of the succeeding year, pro-
 71 vided, however, that neither of the Departments of Highways of the signa-
 72 tory parties nor the Department of Conservation and Economic Develop-
 73 ment of New Jersey or the State Planning Board of Pennsylvania shall be
 74 required to provide funds for any fiscal year without the approval of the
 75 representative of the department or board affected **and such approval*
 75A *shall be subject to the availability of funds appropriated pursuant to the*
 75B *applicable laws of the respective party States**;

76 The aforesaid requirement that budgets be adopted no later than March
 77 15 shall not apply for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1965;

78 (d) To prepare a work program for each fiscal year, consistent with
 79 the budget for that year in such form that budget items are chargeable to
 80 specific elements thereof and submit it to the board for approval and adop-
 81 tion not later than March 1 preceding the beginning of the fiscal year;

82 (e) The Executive Committee shall provide proper and adequate bond-
 83 ing surety conditioned upon the honest performance of such of the personnel
 84 of the commission as have responsibility for the custody of its receipts and
 85 control of its disbursements.

86 (f) The Executive Committee shall establish, by rules and regulation, the
 87 procedures for receipt and disbursement of funds and shall establish and
 88 cause to be maintained such fiscal records and shall meet the requirements for

89 any Federal audits which may be authorized in connection with the financial
90 participation of the United States of America in the commission's operation.

ARTICLE IV

FISCAL AFFAIRS

AUDITS, SOURCE OF FUNDS, TAX EXEMPTION

1 1. Audits—The fiscal affairs of the commission shall be subject to an-
2 nual audits by the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in
3 New Jersey and the Auditor General of Pennsylvania. In addition, any
4 county or city may either singly or in co-operation with the party States
5 perform or cause such audits of the fiscal affairs of the commission for any
6 fiscal year in which it or its corporation counterparts, if any, have made con-
7 tributions.

8 2. Apportionment of expenses—***[Whenever]*** **Subject to the availabil-*
8A *ity of funds appropriated pursuant to the applicable laws of the*
8B *respective party States, whenever** the Executive Committee shall
9 adopt a budget, the share of each State shall be apportioned upon the
10 basis that its population in the Delaware Valley Urban Area bears to the
11 total population of the Delaware Valley Urban Area as determined by the
12 latest available population figures of the United States Bureau of the Cen-
13 sus. In the application of this formula, any moneys to be provided from
14 sources other than the governmental bodies comprising the Delaware Valley
15 Urban Area shall be first deducted. Any appropriation toward an annual
16 budget to be made by any county or city shall be credited to the propor-
17 tionate budget obligation of the State of which such contributing county or
18 city form a part. All the direct expense related to any mass transportation
19 demonstration project shall be paid by the State in which such project is
20 located.

21 3. Tax exemption—The commission shall not be subject to any taxation
22 by the State of New Jersey, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any
23 local government thereof.

ARTICLE V

FEDERAL PARTICIPATION AND COMMISSION RESPONSIBILITY WITH

RESPECT THERETO

1 1. The Bureau of Public Roads, United States Department of Com-
2 merce, and the Housing and Home Finance Administration of the United
3 States may each appoint not more than 3 representatives to the commission
4 who shall have no right to vote in any matter and may have such representa-
5 tion on the Executive Committee and other committees as the commission
6 shall determine. The 2 Federal agencies shall be entitled to the regular com-
7 munications of the commission and the committees on which they are repre-
8 sented as fully as are voting members.

9 The commission shall comply with all lawful and proper requirements of
10 the Federal agencies, and shall co-operate with State and local agencies in
11 meeting such Federal requirements.

ARTICLE VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1 1. Attributes of sovereign immunity—The commission, as an instrumen-
2 tality of the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
3 exercising a governmental function may not be sued in any court of law or
4 equity and shall be vested with such attribute of sovereign immunity in its
5 transactions within the boundaries of one or the other of the 2 States as shall
6 apply to the respective highway departments thereof and no more. If the
7 commission is liable in one State and would not have been liable in the other
8 State, the State wherein such liability exists shall be solely obligated to dis-
9 charge such liability, as well as any costs, fees, or expenses imposed upon
10 or incurred by the commission, notwithstanding any other provisions of this
11 agreement.

12 2. Construction and severability—The provisions of this act and of agree-
13 ments thereunder shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or
14 provision of this compact is declared to be unconstitutional or the applicabil-
15 ity thereof to any signatory party, local governmental body, agency or per-

son is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of this compact and the applicability thereof to any signatory party, local governmental body, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. It is the legislative intent that the provisions of this compact be reasonably and liberally construed.

3. This compact shall become binding and effective immediately upon final enactment by the Legislatures of the signatory parties. The compact shall be signed and sealed in 6 duplicate original copies by the respective Chief Executives of the signatory parties. One such copy shall be filed with the Secretary of State of each of the signatory parties or in accordance with the laws of the State in which the filing is made, and one copy shall be filed and retained in the archives of the commission upon its organization. The signatures shall be affixed and attested under the following form:

In witness whereof, and in evidence of the adoption and enactment into law of this compact by the Legislatures of the signatory parties the Governors thereof do hereby, in accordance with authority conferred by law, sign this compact in 6 duplicate original copies attested by the respective Secretaries of State, and have caused the seals of the respective States to be hereunto affixed this day of

PART II

****[1. Veto power of the Governor—**The minutes of every meeting of the commission or of the Executive Committee held under or within the purview of Part I of this act shall be forthwith transmitted, by and under the certification of the secretary thereof, to the Governor of this State at the Executive Chamber, State House, Trenton.

No action taken at such meeting by any State official or State appointee from this State shall have force or effect for a period of 10 days after the 8 minutes shall have been so transmitted and delivered.

The Governor shall, within 10 days after the minutes shall have been so delivered, cause the same to be returned to the commission either with or without his veto on any action therein recited as having been taken by any

12 State official or State appointee from this State. If the Governor shall not
 13 return the minutes within said 10-day period, any action therein recited shall
 14 have force and effect according to the wording thereof.

15 If the Governor, within said 10-day period, returns the minutes with a
 16 veto against the action of any State official or State appointee from this State
 17 recited therein, the action of such official or appointee shall be null and of no
 18 effect.】**

19 **【2.】** **1.** Interim agreement—Until the Commonwealth of Penn-
 20 sylvania enacts legislation adequate to the consummation of the Interstate
 21 Compact set forth in Part I of this act, the State Highway Commissioner and
 22 the Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development of this State,
 23 with the approval of the Governor, are hereby authorized to enter into an
 24 agreement with the appropriate officials of the Commonwealth of Pennsyl-
 25 vania to effectuate the general purposes of the Delaware Valley Regional
 26 Planning Commission as set forth in this act. Such agreement shall be in
 27 such manner and form as shall be necessary to provide the continued eligi-
 28 bility of the State of New Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 29 for the several Federal aids involved in the planning process which is the
 30 subject of this act. Any such agreement shall not extend beyond July 1,
 30A 1967.

31 **【3.】** **2.** Repealer—All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with
 32 any provision of this act are to the extent of such inconsistency repealed.

33 **【4.】** **3.** Effectuation by Chief Executives—The Chief Executive
 34 is authorized to take such action as may be necessary and proper in his dis-
 35 cretion to effectuate the compact and the initial organization and operation
 36 of the commission thereunder.

37 **【5.】** **4.** Effective date—This act shall take effect immediately.

17 recited therein, the action of such official or appointee shall be null and of no
18 effect.

19 2. Interim agreement—Until the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacts
20 legislation adequate to the consummation of the Interstate Compact set forth
21 in Part I of this act, the State Highway Commissioner and the Commissioner
22 of Conservation and Economic Development of this State, with the approval
23 of the Governor, are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the
24 appropriate officials of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to effectuate the
25 general purposes of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission as
26 set forth in this act. Such agreement shall be in such manner and form as
27 shall be necessary to provide the continued eligibility of the State of New
28 Jersey and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the several Federal aids
29 involved in the planning process which is the subject of this act. Any such
30 agreement shall not extend beyond July 1, 1967.

31 3. Repealer—All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with any provision of
32 this act are to the extent of such inconsistency repealed.

33 4. Effectuation by Chief Executives—The Chief Executive is authorized
34 to take such action as may be necessary and proper in his discretion to effec-
35 tuate the compact and the initial organization and operation of the commis-
36 sion thereunder.

37 5. Effective date—This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill is substantially similar to a measure already enacted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania providing for the creation of a regional planning agency to be known as the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

Federal laws concerning the Bureau of Public Roads and the Housing and Home Finance Agency (now a part of the Department of Housing Urban Development) require regional planning in order to qualify the States, and in some instances political subdivisions thereof, for continued Federal assistance.

The purpose of this legislation is to carry out a regional planning program and to qualify the States for such Federal assistance.

Although this bill follows the Pennsylvania legislation closely, it makes certain changes to guarantee to each State an equal and effective voice in the operations of the commission while assuring local representatives meaningful participation.

The membership of the commission consists of representatives from 4 counties and 2 municipalities from each of the States, as well as 2 State officials and a representative of the Governor. The Pennsylvania law would have provided that a quorum would exist when 11 members, including at least 3 from each State, were present. It further provided that all actions of the board would be by majority vote of the members present. This provision would make it possible for the commission to take affirmative and binding action over the unanimous opposition of the representation from one State. It would also permit both States to be overruled by local representatives. No bi-state agreement or compact in which the State of New Jersey is a member has ever permitted such unilateral action by either party or such delegation of power to political subdivisions.

A similar quorum provision in the Pennsylvania law is established for the Executive Committee. The Pennsylvania law provided that 5 commissioners of the 8 members of the Executive Committee, constituted a quorum if at least 2 members were present from each State.

This bill modifies the quorum provisions to make it clear that no action of the commission shall be effective or binding unless a majority of each State's representatives who are at such meeting, including at least 2 of the State officials or appointees, shall vote in favor thereof.

This bill also provides that each party State shall have the right to provide by law for the exercise of a veto over any action of any State official or State appointee. The bill further provides that the Governor of the State of New Jersey shall have the right to veto the action of State officials or appointees within 10 days after the receipt of the minutes of any commission or Executive Committee meeting.

Since the Pennsylvania law provides for substantial representation and participation by political subdivisions, this bill provides that the chairman and vice-chairman of the commission and the Executive Committee shall be elected from among the State officials and appointees from each party State. This provides for the legitimate interests of the political subdivisions at the same time that it recognizes the particular responsibility of State government with regard to any regional studies concluded by the commission.

The bill authorizes an interim agreement by the State Highway Commissioner and the Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development, with the approval of the Governor, with the appropriate officials of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, until the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacts legislation adequate to the consummation of this interstate compact on a formal basis.