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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COMMISSION**
Created in 1935

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Senate Bill 935, Printer's Number 1121

**Title 45 (Legal Notices) – Permitting the Local Government Commission
to electronically publish the municipal codes**

Summary of the bill:

This bill would amend Title 45 (Legal Notices) to authorize the Local Government Commission to electronically publish on its website the Third Class City Code, the First Class Township Code, the Second Class Township Code, the County Code, and the Borough Code. Publication of the Codes would be in addition to, or in lieu of, the printed publication of these five codes now required under Section 2.1 of the Local Government Commission Law, the act of May 28, 1935 (P.L. 244, No. 102). If the bills are electronically published on an internet website, the Commission would be required to maintain the codes in a secure format accessible to the public and update each Code within 60 days of enactment of any amendment to the Codes.

Current Law:

Pursuant to Section 2.1 of Act 102 of 1935, the Commission is responsible for printing, updating, and distributing the codes or supplements to the codes to delineated officials in each third class city, first class township, second class township, counties of the 3rd through 8th class, and boroughs. Updating occurs after the end of each legislative session. In addition, libraries, Members of the General Assembly, law schools, state departments and agencies and the state library are also eligible to receive copies. Legislators also may obtain printed copies for distribution to constituents either through the Member's office or through the Commission as indicated by the Member.

The Local Government Commission receives an annual line-item appropriation to provide for the cost of printing the codes and/or supplements. The amount in the code account following reallocation of appropriations among legislative service agencies on April 1, 2013, was \$92,834.38. If the Commission exercises the electronic publication option, a much smaller appropriation would be needed simply to maintain and update the Codes on the Commission's website. Printed copies would no longer be available since the Commission has provided a user friendly download electronic option that permits users to obtain and print an entire Code or sections of the Code with a search engine with a keyword search. The option available now on the Commission's website, which is www.lgc.state.pa.us.

In the 2011-2012 session, this bill was introduced as Senate Bill 986. The bill was given first consideration by the Senate and subsequently re-referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee where it remained upon sine die adjournment. This legislation was also introduced in the House during the 2011-2012 session as House Bill 1441. House Bill 1441 passed the House on June 8, 2011. The bill was given first consideration by the Senate, and subsequently re-referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee where it remained upon sine die adjournment.