THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 136 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY GAYDOS, TWARDZIK, HAMM, M. MACKENZIE, R. MACKENZIE, CAUSER, STAMBAUGH, McNEILL, IRVIN, GUENST, STAATS, PICKETT, KEEFER, ECKER, KAUFFMAN, ZIMMERMAN, ORTITAY, M. JONES, ROWE, MOUL, BOROWICZ, LAWRENCE, KEPHART, GILLEN, BENNINGHOFF AND SCIALABBA, MARCH 7, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, MARCH 7, 2023

AN ACT

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), entitled "An act relating to tax reform and State taxation by codifying and enumerating certain subjects of taxation and imposing taxes thereon; providing procedures for the payment, collection, administration and enforcement thereof; providing for tax credits in certain cases; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, certain employers, fiduciaries, individuals, persons, corporations and other entities; prescribing crimes, offenses and penalties," repealing provisions relating to inheritance tax; in procedure and administration, further providing for petition for reassessment; and, in governmental obligations, further providing for taxability of government obligations.
14	The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
15	hereby enacts as follows:
16	Section 1. Article XXI of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6,
17	No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, is repealed:
18	[ARTICLE XXI
19	INHERITANCE TAX
20	PART I
21	PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS
22	Section 2101. Short Title This article shall be known and

- 1 may be cited as the "Inheritance and Estate Tax Act."
- 2 Section 2102. Definitions. -- The following words, terms and
- 3 phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings
- 4 ascribed to them in this section, except where the context
- 5 clearly indicates a different meaning:
- "Adverse interest." A substantial beneficial interest in the
- 7 property transferred which might be adversely affected by the
- 8 exercise or nonexercise of the power or right reserved or
- 9 possessed by the transferor.
- 10 "Business of agriculture." The term shall include the
- 11 leasing to members of the same family or the leasing to a
- 12 corporation or association owned by members of the same family
- 13 of property which is directly and principally used for
- 14 agricultural purposes. The business of agriculture shall not be
- 15 deemed to include:
- 16 (1) recreational activities such as, but not limited to,
- 17 hunting, fishing, camping, skiing, show competition or racing;
- 18 (2) the raising, breeding or training of game animals or
- 19 game birds, fish, cats, dogs or pets or animals intended for use
- 20 in sporting or recreational activities;
- 21 (3) fur farming;
- (4) stockyard and slaughterhouse operations; or
- (5) manufacturing or processing operations of any kind.
- 24 "Children." Includes natural children whether or not they
- 25 have been adopted by others, adopted children and stepchildren.
- Clerk." The clerk of the orphans' court division of the
- 27 court of common pleas having jurisdiction.
- "Court." The orphans' court division of the court of common
- 29 pleas of:
- 30 (1) The county in which the decedent resided at the time of

- 1 his death.
- 2 (2) The county in which letters, if any, are granted if the
- 3 decedent was a nonresident of this Commonwealth.
- 4 (3) Dauphin County in all other cases.
- Date of death." The date of actual death or, in the case of
- 6 a presumed decedent, the date found by the final decree to be
- 7 the date of the absentee's presumed death. For the purpose of
- 8 determining interest and discount, "date of death" means the
- 9 date upon which the court enters its final decree of presumptive
- 10 death.
- "Death taxes." Includes inheritance, succession, transfer
- 12 and estate taxes and any other taxes levied against the estate
- 13 of a decedent by reason of his death.
- "Decedent" or "transferor." Any person by or from whom a
- 15 transfer is made and includes any testator, intestate, grantor,
- 16 settlor, bargainor, vendor, assignor, donor, joint tenant and
- 17 insured.
- 18 "Department." The Department of Revenue of the Commonwealth.
- "Exemption income." All moneys or property, including,
- 20 without limitation, interest, gains or income derived from
- 21 obligations which are statutorily free from State or local
- 22 taxation under any other Federal or State laws, received of
- 23 whatever nature and from whatever source derived.
- "Financial institution." A bank, a national banking
- 25 association, a bank and trust company, a trust company, a
- 26 savings and loan association, a building and loan association, a
- 27 mutual savings bank, a credit union, a savings bank and a
- 28 company that rents safe deposit boxes.
- "Future interest." Includes a successive life interest and a
- 30 successive interest for a term certain.

- "Lineal descendants." All children of the natural parents
- 2 and their descendants, whether or not they have been adopted by
- 3 others, adopted descendants and their descendants and
- 4 stepdescendants.
- Members of the same family." Any individual, such
- 6 individual's brothers and sisters, the brothers and sisters of
- 7 such individual's parents and grandparents, the ancestors and
- 8 lineal descendents of any of the foregoing, a spouse of any of
- 9 the foregoing and the estate of any of the foregoing.
- 10 Individuals related by the half blood or legal adoption shall be
- 11 treated as if they were related by the whole blood. For a
- 12 transfer made by a surviving spouse, the term shall include any
- 13 individual considered to be a member of the same family of the
- 14 decedent spouse.
- "Notice." Written notice.
- "Presumed decedent." A person found to be presumptively dead
- 17 under the provisions of 20 Pa.C.S. Ch. 57 (relating to absentees
- 18 and presumed decedents) or, if a nonresident of this
- 19 Commonwealth, under the laws of his domicile.
- "Property" or "estate." Includes the following:
- 21 (1) All real property and all tangible personal property of
- 22 a resident decedent or transferor having its situs in this
- 23 Commonwealth.
- 24 (2) All intangible personal property of a resident decedent
- 25 or transferor.
- 26 (3) All real property and all tangible personal property of
- 27 a resident decedent having its situs outside this Commonwealth,
- 28 which the decedent had contracted to sell, provided the
- 29 jurisdiction in which the property has its situs does not
- 30 subject it to death tax.

- 1 (4) All real property and all tangible personal property of
- 2 a nonresident decedent or transferor having its situs in this
- 3 Commonwealth, including property held in trust.
- 4 (5) A liquor license issued by the Commonwealth.
- 5 "Register." The register of wills having jurisdiction to
- 6 grant letters testamentary or of administration in the estate of
- 7 the decedent or transferor.
- 8 "Safe deposit box of a decedent." A safe deposit box in a
- 9 financial institution located within this Commonwealth in the
- 10 name of the decedent alone or in the names of the decedent and
- 11 one or more persons other than the spouse of the decedent.
- "Secretary." The Secretary of Revenue of the Commonwealth.
- "Sibling." An individual who has at least one parent in
- 14 common with the decedent, whether by blood or by adoption.
- "Territory." Includes the District of Columbia and all
- 16 possessions of the United States.
- "Transfer." Includes the passage of ownership of property,
- 18 or interest in property or income from property, in possession
- 19 or enjoyment, present or future, in trust or otherwise.
- "Transferee." Any person to whom a transfer is made and
- 21 includes any legatee, devisee, heir, next of kin, grantee,
- 22 beneficiary, vendee, assignee, donee, surviving joint tenant and
- 23 insurance beneficiary.
- "Transfer of property for the sole use." A transfer to or
- 25 for the use of a transferee if, during the transferee's
- 26 lifetime, the transferee is entitled to all income and principal
- 27 distributions from the property and no person, including the
- 28 transferee, possesses an inter vivos power of appointment over
- 29 the property.
- "Value." The price at which the property would be sold by a

- 1 willing seller, not compelled to sell, to a willing buyer, not
- 2 compelled to buy, both of whom have reasonable knowledge of the
- 3 relevant facts. In determining the value of property, no
- 4 reduction shall be made on account of income, excise or other
- 5 taxes which may become payable subsequent to the valuation date
- 6 by the transferee or out of the property. Value as to land in
- 7 agricultural use, agricultural reserve or forest reserve means
- 8 the value which the land has for its particular use according to
- 9 the standards provided in section 2122.
- 10 Section 2103. Powers of Department.--(a) The department may
- 11 adopt and enforce rules and regulations for the just
- 12 administration of this article.
- 13 (b) The department shall have complete supervision of the
- 14 making of appraisements, the allowance of deductions and the
- 15 assessment of tax, including, but not limited to, the power to
- 16 regulate the actions of registers in the allowance and
- 17 disallowance of deductions and assessment of tax. The
- 18 department's supervision of the making of appraisements includes
- 19 the employment and compensation of investigators, appraisers and
- 20 expert appraisers. The compensation of investigators, appraisers
- 21 and expert appraisers shall be paid from the inheritance tax
- 22 collections in the respective counties.
- (c) The department shall, in the event that the register
- 24 fails to take the necessary proceedings in connection with the
- 25 appraisement, allowance of deductions, assessment of tax or
- 26 collection of tax, have all the powers vested in the register in
- 27 this article and, at its option, may take the necessary action
- 28 and shall charge to the register and deduct from any commissions
- 29 or fees otherwise due him all costs and expenses incurred by the
- 30 department in connection with the proceedings.

1 PART II

TRANSFERS SUBJECT TO TAX

- 3 Section 2106. Imposition of Tax. -- An inheritance tax for the
- 4 use of the Commonwealth is imposed upon every transfer subject
- 5 to tax under this article at the rates specified in section
- 6 2116.
- 7 Section 2107. Transfers Subject to Tax. -- (a) The transfers
- 8 enumerated in this section are subject to the tax imposed by
- 9 section 2106.
- 10 (b) All transfers of property by will, by the intestate laws
- 11 of this Commonwealth or, in the case of a transfer from a
- 12 nonresident, by the laws of succession of another jurisdiction
- 13 are subject to tax. The transfer of property of a person
- 14 determined by decree of a court of competent jurisdiction to be
- 15 a presumed decedent is subject to tax within the meaning of this
- 16 section and section 2108.
- (c) (1) All transfers of property specified in subclauses
- 18 (3) through (7) which are made by a resident or a nonresident
- 19 during his lifetime are subject to tax to the extent that they
- 20 are made without valuable and adequate consideration in money or
- 21 money's worth at the time of transfer.
- (2) When the decedent retained or reserved an interest or
- 23 power with respect to only a part of the property transferred,
- 24 in consequence of which a tax is imposed under subclauses (4)
- 25 through (7), the amount of the taxable transfer is only the
- 26 value of that portion of the property transferred which is
- 27 subject to the retained or reserved interest or power.
- 28 (3) A transfer conforming to subclause (1) and made within
- 29 one year of the death of the transferor is subject to tax only
- 30 to the extent that the value at the time of the transfer or

- 1 transfers in the aggregate to or for the benefit of the
- 2 transferee exceeds three thousand dollars (\$3,000) during any
- 3 calendar year.
- 4 (4) A transfer conforming to subclause (1) which takes
- 5 effect in possession or enjoyment at or after the death of the
- 6 transferor and under which the transferor has retained a
- 7 reversionary interest in the property, the value of which
- 8 interest immediately before the death of the transferor exceeds
- 9 five per cent of the value of the property transferred, is
- 10 subject to tax. The term "reversionary interest" includes a
- 11 possibility that property transferred may return to the
- 12 transferor or his estate or may be subject to a power of
- 13 disposition by him, but the term does not include a possibility
- 14 that the income alone from the property may return to him or
- 15 become subject to a power of disposition by him.
- (5) A transfer conforming to subclause (1), and under which
- 17 the transferor expressly or impliedly reserves for his life or
- 18 any period which does not in fact end before his death, the
- 19 possession or enjoyment of, or the right to the income from, the
- 20 property transferred, or the right, either alone or in
- 21 conjunction with any person not having an adverse interest, to
- 22 designate the persons who shall possess or enjoy the property
- 23 transferred or the income from the property, is subject to tax.
- (6) A transfer conforming to subclause (1), and under which
- 25 the transferee promises to make payments to, or for the benefit
- 26 of, the transferor or to care for the transferor during the
- 27 remainder of the transferor's life, is subject to tax.
- (7) A transfer conforming to subclause (1), and under which
- 29 the transferor has at his death, either in himself alone or in
- 30 conjunction with any person not having an adverse interest, a

- 1 power to alter, amend or revoke the interest of the beneficiary,
- 2 is subject to tax. Similarly, the relinquishment of such a power
- 3 within one year of the death of the transferor is a transfer
- 4 subject to tax except as otherwise provided in subclause (3).
- 5 (d) All succeeding interests which follow the interest of a
- 6 surviving spouse in a trust or similar arrangement, to the
- 7 extent specified in section 2113, are transfers subject to tax
- 8 as if the surviving spouse were the transferor.
- 9 Section 2108. Joint Tenancy. -- (a) When any property is held
- 10 in the names of two or more persons or is deposited in a
- 11 financial institution in the names of two or more persons so
- 12 that, upon the death of one of them, the survivor or survivors
- 13 have a right to the immediate ownership or possession and
- 14 enjoyment of the whole property, the accrual of such right, upon
- 15 the death of one of them, shall be deemed a transfer subject to
- 16 tax of a fractional portion of such property to be determined by
- 17 dividing the value of the whole property by the number of joint
- 18 tenants in existence immediately preceding the death of the
- 19 deceased joint tenant.
- (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), this section shall
- 21 not apply to property or interests in property passing by right
- 22 of survivorship to the survivor of husband and wife.
- (c) If the co-ownership was created within one year prior to
- 24 the death of the co-tenant, the entire interest transferred
- 25 shall be subject to tax only under, and to the extent stated in,
- 26 subsection (c)(3) of section 2107 as though a part of the estate
- 27 of the person who created the co-ownership.
- 28 PART III
- 29 TRANSFERS NOT SUBJECT TO TAX
- 30 Section 2111. Transfers Not Subject to Tax.--(a) The

- 1 transfers enumerated in this section are not subject to the tax
- 2 imposed by this article.
- 3 (b) Transfers of property to or for the use of any of the
- 4 following are exempt from inheritance tax:
- 5 (1) The United States of America.
- 6 (2) The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 7 (3) A political subdivision of the Commonwealth of
- 8 Pennsylvania.
- 9 (c) Transfers of property to or for the use of any of the
- 10 following are exempt from inheritance tax:
- (1) Any corporation, unincorporated association or society
- 12 organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable,
- 13 scientific, literary or educational purposes, including the
- 14 encouragement of art and the prevention of cruelty to children
- or animals, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the
- 16 benefit of any private stockholder or individual and no
- 17 substantial part of the activities of which is carrying on
- 18 propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation.
- (2) Any trustee or trustees or any fraternal society, order
- 20 or association operating under the lodge system, but only if the
- 21 property transferred is to be used by the trustee or trustees or
- 22 by the fraternal society, order or association exclusively for
- 23 religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational
- 24 purposes or for the prevention of cruelty to children or
- animals, and no substantial part of the activities of the
- 26 trustee or trustees or of the fraternal society, order or
- 27 association is carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to
- 28 influence legislation.
- 29 (3) Any veterans' organization incorporated by act of
- 30 Congress or its departments or local chapters or posts, no part

- 1 of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any
- 2 private shareholder or individual.
- 3 (d) All proceeds of insurance on the life of the decedent
- 4 are exempt from inheritance tax. Refunds of unearned premiums
- 5 for the current policy period and post mortem dividends shall be
- 6 considered exempt proceeds.
- 7 (e) All proceeds of any Federal War Risk Insurance, National
- 8 Service Life Insurance or similar governmental insurance are
- 9 exempt from inheritance tax. Refunds of unearned premiums for
- 10 the current policy period and post mortem dividends shall be
- 11 considered exempt proceeds.
- (f) The pay and allowances determined by the United States
- 13 to be due a member of its armed forces for service in the
- 14 Vietnam conflict after August 5, 1964, for the period between
- 15 the date declared by it as the beginning of his missing-in-
- 16 action status to the date determined by it to be the date of his
- 17 death, are exempt from inheritance tax.
- 18 (g) Inter vivos transfers as defined in subsection (c) of
- 19 section 2107 which might otherwise be subject to inheritance tax
- 20 are exempt where the transferee is a governmental body as
- 21 provided in subsection (b) or a charity as provided in
- 22 subsection (c).
- (h) Intangible personal property held by, for or for the
- 24 benefit of a decedent who, at the time of his death, was a
- 25 nonresident is exempt from inheritance tax.
- (i) A transfer made as an advancement of or on account of an
- 27 intestate share or in satisfaction or partial satisfaction of a
- 28 gift by will, but not within the meaning of subsection (c)(3) of
- 29 section 2107, is exempt from inheritance tax.
- 30 (j) Adjusted service certificates issued under the act of

- 1 Congress of May 19, 1924, and adjusted service bonds issued
- 2 under the act of Congress of January 27, 1936, are exempt from
- 3 inheritance tax.
- 4 (k) Property subject to a power of appointment, whether or
- 5 not the power is exercised, and notwithstanding any blending of
- 6 such property with the property of the donee, is exempt from
- 7 inheritance tax in the estate of the donee of the power of
- 8 appointment.
- 9 (1) Property awarded to the Commonwealth as statutory heir
- 10 by escheat or without escheat, otherwise than as custodian for a
- 11 known distributee, is exempt from inheritance tax. Inheritance
- 12 tax shall be deducted at the applicable rate without interest
- 13 from any such exempt funds thereafter distributed by the
- 14 Commonwealth.
- 15 (m) Property owned by husband and wife with right of
- 16 survivorship is exempt from inheritance tax. If the ownership
- was created within the meaning of section 2107(c)(3), the entire
- 18 interest transferred shall be subject to tax under section
- 19 2107(c)(3) as though a part of the estate of the spouse who
- 20 created the co-ownership.
- 21 (n) Property held in the name of a decedent who had no
- 22 beneficial interest in the property is exempt from inheritance
- 23 tax.
- 24 (o) Obligations owing to the decedent which are worthless
- 25 immediately before death are exempt from inheritance tax
- 26 although collectible from the obligor's distributive share of
- the estate.
- (p) The lump-sum death payment from the Social Security
- 29 Administration or Veterans' Administration or any county
- 30 veterans' death benefit or other similar death benefit, whether

- 1 or not paid to the decedent's estate, is exempt from inheritance
- 2 tax.
- 3 (q) The lump-sum burial benefit from the United States
- 4 Railroad Retirement Board, whether or not paid to the decedent's
- 5 estate, is exempt from inheritance tax.
- 6 (r) Payments under pension, stock bonus, profit-sharing and
- 7 other retirement plans, including H.R.10 plans, individual
- 8 retirement accounts, individual retirement annuities and
- 9 individual retirement bonds to distributees designated by the
- 10 decedent or designated in accordance with the terms of the plan,
- 11 are exempt from inheritance tax to the extent that the decedent
- 12 before his death did not otherwise have the right to possess
- 13 (including proprietary rights at termination of employment),
- 14 enjoy, assign or anticipate the payment made. In addition to
- 15 this exemption, whether or not the decedent possessed any of
- 16 these rights, the payments are exempt from inheritance tax to
- 17 the same extent that they are exempt from Federal estate tax
- 18 under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
- 19 (Public Law 99-514, 26 U.S.C. § 1 et seq.), as amended, any
- 20 supplement to the code or any similar provision in effect from
- 21 time to time for Federal estate tax purposes, except that a
- 22 payment which would otherwise be exempt for Federal estate tax
- 23 purposes if it had not been made in a lump-sum or other
- 24 nonexempt form of payment shall be exempt from inheritance tax
- 25 even though paid in a lump-sum or other form of payment. The
- 26 proceeds of life insurance otherwise exempt under subsection (d)
- 27 shall not be subject to inheritance tax because they are paid
- 28 under a pension, stock bonus, profit-sharing, H.R.10 or other
- 29 retirement plan.
- 30 (s) A transfer of real estate devoted to the business of

- 1 agriculture to or for the benefit of members of the same family,
- 2 provided that after the transfer the real estate continues to be
- 3 devoted to the business of agriculture for a period of seven
- 4 years beyond the transferor's date of death, the real estate
- 5 derives a yearly gross income of at least two thousand dollars
- 6 (\$2,000) and the real estate is reported on a timely filed
- 7 inheritance tax return, provided that:
- 8 (1) Any tract of land under this article which is no longer
- 9 devoted to the business of agriculture within seven years beyond
- 10 the transferor's date of death or does not derive a yearly gross
- 11 income of at least two thousand dollars (\$2,000) shall be
- 12 subject to inheritance tax due the Commonwealth under section
- 13 2107, in the amount that would have been paid or payable on the
- 14 basis of valuation authorized under section 2121 for nonexempt
- 15 transfers of property, plus interest thereon accruing as of the
- 16 transferor's date of death, at the rate established in section
- 17 2143.
- (2) Any tax imposed under section 2107 shall be a lien in
- 19 favor of the Commonwealth upon the property no longer being
- 20 devoted to the business of agriculture or which does not derive
- 21 a yearly gross income of at least two thousand dollars (\$2,000),
- 22 as well as the personal obligation of the owner of the property
- 23 at the time of the event causing the property to fail to qualify
- 24 for exemption and all beneficiaries of any trust that is an
- 25 owner of the property. Liability for the tax shall be joint and
- 26 several.
- 27 (3) Every owner of real estate exempt under this subsection
- 28 shall certify to the department on an annual basis that the land
- 29 qualifies for this exemption and shall notify the department
- 30 within thirty days of any transaction or occurrence causing the

- 1 real estate to fail to qualify for the exemption. Each year the
- 2 department shall inform all owners of their obligation to
- 3 provide an annual certification under this subclause. This
- 4 certification and notification shall be completed in the form
- 5 and manner as provided by the department.
- 6 (s.1) A transfer of an agricultural commodity, agricultural
- 7 conservation easement, agricultural reserve, agricultural use
- 8 property or a forest reserve, as those terms are defined in
- 9 section 2122(a), to or for the benefit of lineal descendants or
- 10 siblings is exempt from inheritance tax, provided the foregoing
- 11 property is reported on a timely filed inheritance tax return.
- 12 (t) A qualified family-owned business. The following shall
- 13 apply:
- 14 (1) A transfer of a qualified family-owned business interest
- 15 to or for the benefit of members of the same family is exempt
- 16 from inheritance tax if the qualified family-owned business
- 17 interest:
- (i) continues to be owned by members of the same family or a
- 19 trust whose beneficiaries are comprised solely of members of the
- 20 same family for a minimum of seven years after the decedent's
- 21 date of death; and
- (ii) is reported on a timely filed inheritance tax return.
- 23 (2) A qualified family-owned business interest that was
- 24 exempted from inheritance tax under this subsection that is no
- 25 longer owned by members of the same family or a trust whose
- 26 beneficiaries are comprised solely of members of the same family
- 27 at any time within seven years after the decedent's date of
- 28 death shall be subject to inheritance tax due the Commonwealth
- 29 under section 2107, in an amount equal to the inheritance tax
- 30 that would have been paid or payable on the value of the

- 1 qualified family-owned business interest using the valuation
- 2 authorized under section 2121 for nonexempt transfers of
- 3 property. Interest shall accrue from the payment date
- 4 established under section 2142 at the rate established under
- 5 section 2143.
- 6 (2.1) The exemption under this subsection shall not apply to
- 7 property transferred by the decedent into the qualified family-
- 8 owned business within one year of the death of the decedent
- 9 unless the property was transferred for a legitimate business
- 10 purpose.
- 11 (3) Inheritance tax due under section 2107 as a result of
- 12 disqualification under paragraphs (2) or (4), plus interest on
- 13 the inheritance tax, shall be a lien in favor of the
- 14 Commonwealth on the real and personal property of the owner of
- 15 the qualified family-owned business interest at the time of the
- 16 transaction or occurrence that disqualified the qualified
- 17 family-owned business interest from the exemption provided under
- 18 this subsection. The inheritance tax due and interest shall be
- 19 the personal obligation of the owner of the qualified family-
- 20 owned business interest at the time of the transaction or
- 21 occurrence that disqualified the qualified family-owned business
- 22 interest from the exemption provided under this subsection and
- 23 all beneficiaries of any trust that is an owner of the qualified
- 24 family-owned business interest. Liability for the tax shall be
- 25 joint and several. The lien shall remain until the inheritance
- 26 tax and accrued interest are paid in full.
- 27 (4) Each owner of a qualified family-owned business interest
- 28 exempted from inheritance tax under this subsection shall
- 29 certify to the department, on an annual basis, for seven years
- 30 after the decedent's date of death, that the qualified family-

- 1 owned business interest continues to be owned by members of the
- 2 same family or a trust whose beneficiaries are comprised solely
- 3 of members of the same family and shall notify the department
- 4 within thirty days of any transaction or occurrence causing the
- 5 qualified family-owned business interest to fail to qualify for
- 6 the exemption. Each year, the department shall inform all owners
- 7 of a qualified family-owned business interest exempted from
- 8 inheritance tax under this subsection of their obligation to
- 9 provide an annual certification under this paragraph. The
- 10 certification and notification shall be completed in the form
- 11 and manner as provided by the department. An owner's failure to
- 12 comply with the certification or notification requirements shall
- 13 result in the loss of the exemption, and the qualified family-
- 14 owned business interest shall be subject to inheritance tax due
- 15 the Commonwealth under section 2107, in an amount equal to the
- 16 inheritance tax that would have been paid or payable on the
- 17 value of the qualified family-owned business interest using the
- 18 valuation authorized under section 2121 for nonexempt transfers
- 19 of property. Interest shall accrue from the payment date
- 20 established in section 2142 at the rate established in section
- 21 2143.
- (5) For purposes of this subsection, the term "qualified
- 23 family-owned business interest" shall be as follows:
- 24 (i) an interest as a proprietor in a trade or business
- 25 carried on as a proprietorship, if the proprietorship has fewer
- 26 than fifty full-time equivalent employees as of the date of the
- 27 decedent's death, the proprietorship has a net book value of
- 28 assets totaling less than five million dollars (\$5,000,000) as
- 29 of the date of the decedent's death and has been in existence
- 30 for five years prior to the date of the decedent's death; or

- (ii) an interest in an entity carrying on a trade or
- 2 business, if:
- 3 (A) the entity has fewer than fifty full-time equivalent
- 4 employees as of the date of the decedent's death;
- 5 (B) the entity has a net book value of assets totaling less
- 6 than five million dollars (\$5,000,000) as of the date of the
- 7 decedent's death;
- 8 (C) as of the date of the decedent's death, the entity is
- 9 wholly owned by the decedent, by the decedent and members of the
- 10 same family, by a trust whose beneficiaries are comprised solely
- 11 of members of the same family or by an entity that is owned
- 12 solely by members of the same family;
- (D) the entity is engaged in a trade or business the
- 14 principal purpose of which is not the management of investments
- or income-producing assets owned by the entity; and
- 16 (E) the entity has been in existence for five years prior to
- 17 the decedent's date of death.
- (u) The transfer of personal property, whether tangible or
- 19 intangible, that is the result of a decedent military member.
- (1) For purposes of this subsection, the term "decedent
- 21 military member" shall mean an individual who, while serving in
- 22 the armed forces, a reserve component or the National Guard of
- 23 the United States, died as a result of injury or illness
- 24 received while on active duty, including active duty for
- 25 training.
- 26 (2) The term shall include both Federal and State active
- 27 duty as evidenced by official activation order.
- 28 Section 2113. Trusts and Similar Arrangements for Spouses.--
- 29 (a) In the case of a transfer of property for the sole use of
- 30 the transferor's surviving spouse during the surviving spouse's

- 1 entire lifetime, all succeeding interests which follow the
- 2 interest of the surviving spouse shall not be subject to tax as
- 3 transfers by the transferor if the transfer was made by a
- 4 decedent dying on or after January 1, 1995, provided that the
- 5 transferor's personal representative may elect, on a timely
- 6 filed inheritance tax return, to have this section not apply to
- 7 a trust or similar arrangement or portion of a trust or similar
- 8 arrangement.
- 9 (b) Succeeding interests not subject to tax as transfers by
- 10 the transferor by reason of subsection (a) shall be deemed to be
- 11 transfers subject to tax by the surviving spouse of the property
- 12 held in the trust or similar arrangement at the death of the
- 13 surviving spouse. The tax on that property shall be based upon
- 14 its value at the death of the surviving spouse, the tax rates
- 15 applicable to dispositions by the surviving spouse or by the
- 16 transferor, whichever are lower, and any exemptions relating to
- 17 the kind or location of property held in the trust or similar
- 18 arrangement at the surviving spouse's death.
- (c) Subsection (b) shall apply even if the succeeding
- 20 interests not subject to tax as transfers by the transferor by
- 21 reason of subsection (a) were also not subject to tax by reason
- 22 of an exemption based upon the kind or location of property at
- 23 the transferor's death.
- 24 (d) This section shall not apply to inter vivos transfers
- 25 otherwise exempt from inheritance tax.
- 26 PART IV
- 27 RATE OF TAX
- Section 2116. Inheritance Tax. -- (a) (1) Inheritance tax
- 29 upon the transfer of property passing to or for the use of any
- 30 of the following shall be at the rate of four and one-half per

- 1 cent:
- 2 (i) grandfather, grandmother, father, mother, except
- 3 transfers under subclause (1.2), and lineal descendants; or
- 4 (ii) wife or widow and husband or widower of a child.
- 5 (1.1) Inheritance tax upon the transfer of property passing
- 6 to or for the use of a husband or wife shall be:
- 7 (i) At the rate of three per cent for estates of decedents
- 8 dying on or after July 1, 1994, and before January 1, 1995.
- 9 (ii) At a rate of zero per cent for estates of decedents
- 10 dying on or after January 1, 1995.
- 11 (1.2) Inheritance tax upon the transfer of property from a
- 12 child twenty-one years of age or younger to or for the use of a
- 13 natural parent, an adoptive parent or a stepparent of the child
- 14 shall be at the rate of zero per cent.
- 15 (1.3) Inheritance tax upon the transfer of property passing
- 16 to or for the use of a sibling shall be at the rate of twelve
- 17 per cent.
- 18 (1.4) Inheritance tax upon the transfer of property to or
- 19 for the use of a child twenty-one years of age or younger from a
- 20 natural parent, an adoptive parent or a stepparent of the child
- 21 shall be at the rate of zero per cent.
- (2) Inheritance tax upon the transfer of property passing to
- 23 or for the use of all persons other than those designated in
- 24 subclause (1), (1.1), (1.2), (1.3) or (1.4) or exempt under
- 25 section 2111(m) shall be at the rate of fifteen per cent.
- 26 (3) When property passes to or for the use of a husband and
- 27 wife with right of survivorship, one of whom is taxable at a
- 28 rate lower than the other, the lower rate of tax shall be
- 29 applied to the entire interest.
- 30 (b) (1) When the decedent was a resident, the tax shall be

- 1 computed upon the value of the property, in excess of the
- 2 deductions specified in Part VI, at the rates in effect at the
- 3 transferor's death.
- 4 (2) When the decedent was a nonresident, the tax shall be
- 5 computed upon the value of real property and tangible personal
- 6 property having its situs in this Commonwealth, in excess of
- 7 unpaid property taxes assessed on the property and any
- 8 indebtedness for which it is liened, mortgaged or pledged, at
- 9 the rates in effect at the transferor's death. The person liable
- 10 to make the return under section 2136 may elect to have the tax
- 11 computed as if the decedent was a resident and his entire estate
- 12 was property having its situs in this Commonwealth, and the tax
- 13 due shall be the amount which bears the same ratio to the tax
- 14 thus computed as the real property and tangible personal
- 15 property located in this Commonwealth bears to the entire estate
- 16 of the decedent.
- 17 (b.1) The inheritance tax due upon the transfer of property
- 18 passing to or for the use of a husband or wife shall be the
- 19 lesser of the tax imposed under subsection (a) (1.1) or the tax
- 20 due after the allowance of the credit provided for under section
- 21 2112.
- (c) When any person entitled to a distributive share of an
- 23 estate, whether under an inter vivos trust, a will or the
- 24 intestate law, renounces his right to receive the distributive
- 25 share receiving therefor no consideration, or exercises his
- 26 elective rights under 20 Pa.C.S. Ch. 22 (relating to elective
- 27 share of surviving spouse) receiving therefor no consideration
- 28 other than the interest in assets passing to him as the electing
- 29 spouse, the tax shall be computed as though the persons who
- 30 benefit by such renunciation or election were originally

- 1 designated to be the distributees, conditioned upon an
- 2 adjudication or decree of distribution expressly confirming
- 3 distribution to such distributees. The renunciation shall be
- 4 made within nine months after the death of the decedent. In the
- 5 case of a surviving spouse taking his elective share of an
- 6 estate, the renunciation shall be made within the time for
- 7 election and any extension thereof under 20 Pa.C.S. § 2210(b)
- 8 (relating to procedure for election; time limit). Notice of the
- 9 filing of the account and of its call for audit or confirmation
- 10 shall include notice of the renunciation or election to the
- 11 department. When an unconditional vesting of a future interest
- 12 does not occur at the decedent's death, the renunciation
- 13 specified in this subsection of the future interest may be made
- 14 within three months after the occurrence of the event or
- 15 contingency which resolves the vesting of the interest in
- 16 possession and enjoyment.
- 17 (d) In case of a compromise of a dispute regarding rights
- 18 and interests of transferees, made in good faith, the tax shall
- 19 be computed as though the persons so receiving distribution were
- 20 originally entitled to it as transferees of the property
- 21 received in the compromise, conditioned upon an adjudication or
- 22 decree of distribution expressly confirming distribution to such
- 23 distributees. Notice of the filing of the account and of its
- 24 call for audit or confirmation shall include notice to the
- 25 department.
- 26 (e) If the rate of tax which will be applicable when an
- 27 interest vests in possession and enjoyment cannot be established
- 28 with certainty, the department, after consideration of relevant
- 29 actuarial factors, valuations and other pertinent circumstances,
- 30 may enter into an agreement with the person responsible for

- 1 payment to establish a specified amount of tax which, when paid
- 2 within sixty days after the agreement, shall constitute full
- 3 payment of all tax otherwise due upon such transfer. Rights of
- 4 withdrawal of a surviving spouse not exercised within nine
- 5 months of the transferor's death shall be ignored in making such
- 6 calculations.
- 7 (f) Property subject to a power of appointment, whether or
- 8 not the power is exercised and notwithstanding any blending of
- 9 the property with the property of the donee, shall be taxed only
- 10 as part of the estate of the donor.
- 11 Section 2117. Estate Tax.--(a) In the event that a Federal
- 12 estate tax is payable to the Federal Government on the transfer
- 13 of the taxable estate of a decedent who was a resident of this
- 14 Commonwealth at the time of his death, and the inheritance tax,
- 15 if any, actually paid to the Commonwealth by reason of the death
- of the decedent (disregarding interest or the amount of any
- 17 discount allowed under section 2142) is less than the maximum
- 18 credit for State death taxes allowable under section 2011 of the
- 19 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (Public Law 99-514, 26 U.S.C. §
- 20 2011), a tax equal to the difference is imposed. If a resident
- 21 decedent owned or had an interest in real property or tangible
- 22 personal property having a situs in another state, the tax so
- 23 imposed shall be reduced by the greater of:
- 24 (1) the amount of death taxes actually paid to the other
- 25 state with respect to the estate of the decedent, excluding any
- 26 death tax expressly imposed to receive the benefit of the credit
- 27 for state death taxes allowed under section 2011 of the Internal
- 28 Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. § 2011); or
- 29 (2) an amount computed by multiplying the maximum credit for
- 30 state death taxes allowable under section 2011 of the Internal

- 1 Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. § 2011) by a fraction, the
- 2 numerator of which is the value of the real property and
- 3 tangible personal property to the extent included in the
- 4 decedent's gross estate for Federal estate tax purposes and
- 5 having a situs in the other state and the denominator of which
- 6 is the value of the decedent's gross estate for Federal estate
- 7 tax purposes.
- 8 (b) In the event that a Federal estate tax is payable to the
- 9 Federal Government on the transfer of the taxable estate of a
- 10 decedent who was not a resident of this Commonwealth at the time
- 11 of his death but who owned or had an interest in real property
- 12 or tangible personal property having a situs in this
- 13 Commonwealth, a tax is imposed in an amount computed by
- 14 multiplying the maximum credit for State death taxes allowable
- under section 2011 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26
- 16 U.S.C. § 2011) by a fraction, the numerator of which is the
- 17 value of the real property and tangible personal property to the
- 18 extent included in the decedent's gross estate for Federal
- 19 estate tax purposes having a situs in this Commonwealth and the
- 20 denominator of which is the value of the decedent's gross estate
- 21 for Federal estate tax purposes, and deducting from that amount
- 22 the inheritance tax, if any, actually paid to the Commonwealth
- 23 (disregarding interest or the amount of any discount allowed
- 24 under section 2142).
- (c) When an inheritance tax is imposed after an estate tax
- 26 imposed under subsection (a) or (b) has been paid, the estate
- 27 tax paid shall be credited against any inheritance tax later
- 28 imposed.
- 29 PART V
- 30 VALUATION

- 1 Section 2121. Valuation. -- (a) Except as otherwise provided
- 2 in this part, the valuation date shall be the date of the
- 3 transferor's death. When the transfer was made during lifetime
- 4 and was not in trust, the property transferred shall be valued
- 5 at the transferor's death. When the transfer was to an inter
- 6 vivos trust, the property to be valued shall be that comprising
- 7 the portion of the trust, if any, which exists at the
- 8 transferor's death and which portion is traceable from property
- 9 the transfer of which is subject to tax under this article.
- 10 (b) The value of a life interest shall be determined in
- 11 accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the
- 12 department. Until the promulgation of rules and regulations to
- 13 the contrary, the regulations in effect for Federal estate tax
- 14 purposes shall apply.
- (c) The value of an interest for a term certain shall be
- 16 determined in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated
- 17 by the department. Until the promulgation of rules and
- 18 regulations to the contrary, the regulations in effect for
- 19 Federal estate tax purposes shall apply.
- (d) If an annuity or a life estate is terminated by the
- 21 death of the annuitant or life tenant or by the happening of a
- 22 contingency within nine months after the death of the
- 23 transferor, the value of the annuity or estate shall be the
- 24 value, at the date of the transferor's death, of the amount of
- 25 the annuity or income actually paid or payable to the annuitant
- 26 or life tenant during the period he was entitled to the annuity
- 27 or was in possession of the estate. If an appraisement of an
- 28 annuity or life estate has been filed before the termination,
- 29 the appraisement and any assessment based on the appraisement
- 30 shall be revised in accordance with this section upon request of

- 1 any party in interest, including the Commonwealth and the
- 2 personal representative, insofar as the appraisement and any
- 3 assessment based on the appraisement relates to the valuation of
- 4 the terminated annuity or life estate, without the necessity of
- 5 the party in interest following any procedure described in Part
- 6 XI.
- 7 (e) The value of a future interest shall be determined in
- 8 accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the
- 9 department. Until the promulgation of rules and regulations to
- 10 the contrary, the regulations in effect for Federal estate tax
- 11 purposes shall apply.
- 12 (f) When a decedent's property is subject, during his
- 13 lifetime and at the time of his death, to a binding option or
- 14 agreement to sell, the appraised value of the property shall not
- 15 exceed the amount of the established price payable for it
- 16 provided the option or agreement is a bona fide arrangement and
- 17 not a device to transfer the property for less than an adequate
- and full consideration in money or money's worth. If the option
- 19 or agreement is not exercised and consummated, the value at
- 20 which the property is appraised shall not be limited to the
- 21 established price payable for the property, and it shall not
- 22 exceed the value of the property on the date of the transferor's
- 23 death. When tax has been assessed on the basis of an established
- 24 price and the option or agreement is not exercised and
- 25 consummated or an amount greater than the established price is
- 26 received for the property, the fiduciary or transferee shall
- 27 file a supplemental return reporting the facts.
- 28 Section 2122. Valuation of Certain Farmland. -- (a) The
- 29 following words and phrases, when used in this section, shall
- 30 have the meaning ascribed to them in this section, except where

- 1 the context clearly indicates a different meaning:
- 2 "Agricultural commodity." Any and all plant and animal
- 3 products, including Christmas trees produced in this
- 4 Commonwealth for commercial purposes.
- 5 "Agricultural conservation easement." As defined in section
- 6 3 of the act of June 30, 1981 (P.L.128, No.43), known as the
- 7 "Agricultural Area Security Law."
- 8 "Agricultural reserve." Noncommercial open space lands used
- 9 for outdoor recreation or the enjoyment of scenic or natural
- 10 beauty and open to the public for such use, without charge or
- 11 fee, on a nondiscriminatory basis.
- "Agricultural use." Use of the land for the purpose of
- 13 producing an agricultural commodity or when devoted to and
- 14 meeting the requirements and qualifications for payments or
- 15 other compensation pursuant to a soil conservation program under
- 16 an agreement with an agency of the Federal Government.
- "Forest reserve." Land, ten acres or more, stocked by forest
- 18 trees of any size and capable of producing timber or other wood
- 19 products.
- "Separation." A division, by conveyance or other action of
- 21 the owner, of lands devoted to agricultural use, agricultural
- 22 reserve or forest reserve and preferentially assessed under the
- 23 provisions of this section into two or more tracts of land which
- 24 continue to be agricultural use, agricultural reserve or forest
- 25 reserve and all tracts so formed meet the requirements of
- 26 section 3 of the act of December 19, 1974 (P.L.973, No.319),
- 27 known as the "Pennsylvania Farmland and Forest Land Assessment
- 28 Act of 1974."
- 29 "Split-off." A division, by conveyance or other action of
- 30 the owner, of lands devoted to agricultural use, agricultural

- 1 reserve or forest reserve and preferentially assessed under the
- 2 provisions of this section into two or more tracts of land, the
- 3 use of which on one or more of such tracts does not meet the
- 4 requirements of section 3 of the act of December 19, 1974
- 5 (P.L.973, No.319), known as the "Pennsylvania Farmland and
- 6 Forest Land Assessment Act of 1974."
- 7 (b) (1) The value for transfer inheritance tax purposes of
- 8 land or an interest in land which is owned by a decedent and
- 9 devoted to agricultural use, agricultural reserve or forest
- 10 reserve shall be that value which such land has for its
- 11 particular use if it also meets the following conditions:
- (i) in the case of land devoted to agricultural use, the
- 13 land was devoted to such agricultural use for the three years
- 14 preceding the death of such decedent and is not less than ten
- 15 contiguous acres in area or has an anticipated yearly gross
- 16 income derived from agricultural use of two thousand dollars
- 17 (\$2,000);
- (ii) in the case of land devoted to agricultural reserve,
- 19 the land is not less than ten contiguous acres in area;
- 20 (iii) in the case of land presently devoted to forest
- 21 reserve, the land is not less than ten contiquous acres in area;
- 22 or
- (iv) the contiguous tract of land for which application is
- 24 made is not less than the entire contiquous area of the owner
- 25 used for agricultural use, agricultural reserve or forest
- 26 reserve purposes.
- 27 (2) In determining the value of land in agricultural use,
- 28 agricultural reserve or forest reserve for its particular use,
- 29 consideration shall be given to available evidence of such
- 30 land's capability for its particular use as derived from the

- 1 soil survey at The Pennsylvania State University, the National
- 2 Cooperative Soil Survey, the United States Census of
- 3 Agricultural Categories of land use classes and other evidence
- 4 of the capability of the land devoted to such use and also, if
- 5 the land is assessed under the provisions of the "Pennsylvania
- 6 Farmland and Forest Land Assessment Act of 1974," to the
- 7 valuation determined by the local county assessor thereunder.
- 8 (c) (1) If any tract of land in agricultural use,
- 9 agricultural reserve or forest reserve, which is valued for
- 10 inheritance tax purposes under the provisions of this part, is
- 11 applied to a use other than agricultural use, agricultural
- 12 reserve or forest reserve or for any other reason, except
- 13 condemnation thereof, is removed from the category of land
- 14 preferentially valued under this part within seven years
- 15 following the death of such decedent, the owner at such time the
- 16 land is so removed shall be subject and liable to tax due the
- 17 Commonwealth in an amount equal to the difference, if any,
- 18 between the taxes paid or payable on the basis of the valuation
- 19 authorized under this section and the taxes that would have been
- 20 paid or payable had that land been valued and taxed on the basis
- 21 of its market value at the death of the decedent, plus interest
- 22 thereon for the period from the date of death to the change of
- 23 use at the rate established in section 2143.
- 24 (2) The tax shall be a lien upon the property in favor of
- 25 the Commonwealth, collectible in the manner provided by law for
- 26 the collection of delinquent real estate taxes, as well as the
- 27 personal obligation of the owner at the time of such change of
- 28 use. The tax shall become due on the date of change of use.
- 29 (3) Every owner of land preferentially valued under this
- 30 section shall notify the register of wills of the county or

- 1 counties in which the land is located of any change or proposed
- 2 change in the use of the land. Any owner failing to make
- 3 notification commits a misdemeanor of the third degree.
- 4 (d) (1) The split-off of a part of the land which has been
- 5 valued, assessed and taxed under this article for a use other
- 6 than agricultural use, agricultural reserve or forest reserve
- 7 within the seven-year period provided for by subsection (c)
- 8 shall, except when the split-off occurs through condemnation,
- 9 subject the land divided and the entire parcel from which the
- 10 land was divided to liability for taxes as otherwise set forth
- in this article except as provided in subclause (2).
- 12 (2) The owner of property subject to a preferential tax
- 13 assessment may split off land covered by the preferential tax
- 14 assessment within the seven-year period. The tract of land so
- 15 split-off shall not exceed two acres annually and may only be
- 16 used for residential use, agricultural use, agricultural reserve
- 17 or forest reserve and the construction of a residential dwelling
- 18 to be occupied by the person to whom the land is transferred.
- 19 The total parcel or parcels of land split-off under the
- 20 provisions of this subsection shall not exceed ten per cent or
- 21 ten acres, whichever is less, of the entire tract subject to the
- 22 preferential tax assessment. The split-off of a parcel of land
- 23 which meets the requirements of this subsection shall not
- 24 invalidate the preferential tax assessment if it continues to
- 25 meet the requirements of subsection (b).
- 26 (3) The owner of property subject to a preferential use
- 27 assessment may separate land covered by the preferential use
- 28 assessment. The separation shall not invalidate the preferential
- 29 tax assessment unless a subsequent abandonment of preferential
- 30 use occurs within seven years of the separation. The abandonment

- 1 shall subject the entire tract of land separated to liability
- 2 for taxes, which are to be paid by the person changing the use,
- as set forth in this article.
- 4 (4) When property subject to preferential tax assessment is
- 5 separated among the beneficiaries taxed under subsection (a) (1)
- 6 of section 2116, a subsequent change within the seven-year
- 7 period provided for in subsection (b) in the use of one
- 8 beneficiary's portion of the property shall subject only that
- 9 tract held by the beneficiary who changes the use to liability
- 10 under this article.
- (e) The value for transfer inheritance tax purposes of land
- 12 or an interest in land which is part of an agricultural
- 13 conservation easement shall be at fifty per cent of the value
- 14 otherwise determined under this section.
- 15 PART VI
- 16 DEDUCTIONS
- 17 Section 2126. Deductions Generally. -- The only deductions
- 18 from the value of the property transferred shall be those set
- 19 forth in this part. Except as otherwise provided in this
- 20 article, they shall be deductible regardless of whether or not
- 21 assets comprising the decedent's taxable estate are employed in
- 22 the payment or discharge of the deductible items. When a tax is
- 23 imposed upon a transfer described in subsection (c) of section
- 24 2107 and section 2108, the deductions shall be allowed to the
- 25 transferee only to the extent that the transferee has actually
- 26 paid the deductible items and either the transferee was legally
- 27 obligated to pay the deductible items or the estate subject to
- 28 administration by a personal representative is insufficient to
- 29 pay the deductible items.
- 30 Section 2127. Expenses. -- The following expenses may be

- 1 deducted from the value of the property transferred:
- 2 (1) Administration expenses. All reasonable expenses of
- 3 administration of the decedent's estate and of the assets
- 4 includable in the decedent's taxable estate are deductible.
- 5 (2) Bequest to fiduciary or attorney in lieu of fees. A
- 6 transfer to an executor, trustee or attorney in lieu of
- 7 compensation for services is deductible to the extent it does
- 8 not exceed reasonable compensation for the services to be
- 9 performed.
- 10 (3) Family exemption. The family exemption is deductible.
- 11 (4) Funeral and burial expenses. Reasonable and customary
- 12 funeral expenses, including the cost of a family burial lot or
- 13 other resting place, are deductible.
- (5) Tombstones and gravemarkers. Reasonable and customary
- 15 expenses for the purchase and erection of a monument, gravestone
- or marker on decedent's burial lot or final resting place are
- 17 deductible.
- 18 (6) Burial trusts or contracts. Bequests or devises in
- 19 trust, or funds placed in trust after decedent's death or funds
- 20 paid under a contract after decedent's death, in reasonable
- 21 amounts, to the extent that the funds or income from the funds
- 22 is to be applied to the care and preservation of the family
- 23 burial lot or other final resting place in which the decedent is
- 24 buried or the remains of the decedent repose and the structure
- on the burial lot or other final resting place, are deductible.
- 26 (7) Bequests for religious services. Bequests in reasonable
- 27 amounts for the performance or celebration of religious rites,
- 28 rituals, services or ceremonies, in consequence of the death of
- 29 the decedent, shall be deductible.
- 30 Section 2128. Taxes.--The following taxes may be deducted

- 1 from the value of the property transferred:
- 2 (1) Property taxes. Taxes imposed against the decedent or
- 3 against any property constituting a part of decedent's gross
- 4 taxable estate and which are owing prior to decedent's death are
- 5 deductible. However, taxes for which decedent is not personally
- 6 liable shall not be deductible in an amount exceeding the value
- 7 of the property against which the taxes are liened.
- 8 (2) State and foreign death taxes. Death taxes other than
- 9 the Federal estate tax, disregarding interest and penalty, paid
- 10 to other states and territories of the United States and to
- 11 taxing jurisdictions outside the United States and its
- 12 territories on assets, the transfer of which is subject to tax
- 13 under this article, if the taxes are required to be paid to
- 14 bring the assets into this Commonwealth, or to transfer them to
- 15 the new owner, are deductible.
- Section 2129. Liabilities. -- (a) Except as set forth in
- 17 section 2130(5), all liabilities of the decedent shall be
- 18 deductible subject to the limitations set forth in this section.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (h) and (i),
- 20 the deductions for indebtedness of the decedent, when founded
- 21 upon a promise or agreement, shall be limited to the extent that
- 22 it was contracted bona fide and for an adequate and full
- 23 consideration in money or money's worth.
- 24 (c) Except as provided by subclause (4) of section 2130,
- 25 indebtedness owing by the decedent upon a secured loan is
- 26 deductible whether or not the security is a part of the gross
- 27 taxable estate.
- (d) Except as provided by subclause (4) of section 2130, the
- 29 decedent's liability (net of all collectible contribution) on a
- 30 joint obligation is deductible whether or not payment of the

- 1 obligation is secured by entireties property or property which
- 2 passes to another under the right of survivorship.
- 3 (e) Indebtedness arising from a contract for the support of
- 4 the decedent is deductible.
- 5 (f) Decedent's obligation is deductible whether or not
- 6 discharged by testamentary gift.
- 7 (g) Decedent's debt, which is unenforceable because of any
- 8 statute of limitations, is deductible if paid by the estate.
- 9 (h) A pledge to a transferee exempt under the provisions of
- 10 subsection (c) of section 2111 is deductible if paid by the
- 11 estate, whether or not it is legally enforceable.
- 12 (i) Liabilities arising from the decedent's tort or from
- 13 decedent's status as an accommodation endorser, quarantor or
- 14 surety are deductible, except to the extent that it can be
- 15 reasonably anticipated that decedent's estate will be exonerated
- or reimbursed by others primarily liable or subject to
- 17 contribution.
- (j) The fact that a surviving spouse is legally liable and
- 19 financially able to pay any item which, if the deceased spouse
- 20 were unmarried, would qualify as a deduction under this part
- 21 shall not result in the disallowance of such item as a
- 22 deduction.
- (k) Obligations for decedent's medical expenses are not
- 24 deductible to the extent decedent's estate will be exonerated or
- 25 reimbursed for such expenses from other sources.
- Section 2130. Deductions Not Allowed. -- The following are not
- 27 deductible:
- (2) Claims of a former spouse, or others, under an agreement
- 29 between the former spouse and the decedent, insofar as they
- 30 arise in consideration of a relinquishment or promised

- 1 relinquishment of marital or support rights.
- 2 (3) Litigation expenses of beneficiaries.
- 3 (4) Indebtedness secured by real property or tangible
- 4 personal property, all of which has its situs outside of this
- 5 Commonwealth, except to the extent the indebtedness exceeds the
- 6 value of the property.
- 7 (5) Expenses, debts, obligations and liabilities incurred in
- 8 connection with a qualified family-owned business interest
- 9 exempted from inheritance under section 2111(t) and any property
- 10 exempted from inheritance tax under section 2111(s) or (s.1).
- 11 PART VII
- 12 PAYMENT OF TAX
- Section 2136. Returns. -- (a) The following persons shall
- 14 make a return:
- 15 (1) The personal representative of the estate of the
- 16 decedent as to property of the decedent administered by him and
- 17 additional property which is or may be subject to inheritance
- 18 tax of which he shall have or acquire knowledge.
- (2) The transferee of property upon the transfer of which
- 20 inheritance tax is or may be imposed by this article, including
- 21 a trustee of property transferred in trust. No separate return
- 22 need be made by the transferee of property included in the
- 23 return of a personal representative.
- (b) The inclusion of property in the return shall not
- 25 constitute an admission that its transfer is taxable.
- 26 (c) Any person required to file a return under subsection
- 27 (a) shall promptly file a supplemental return with respect to
- 28 additional assets and transfers which come to his knowledge
- 29 after the original return has been filed.
- 30 (d) The returns required by subsection (a) shall be filed

- 1 within nine months after the death of the decedent. At any time
- 2 prior to the expiration of the nine-month period, the
- 3 department, in its discretion, may grant an extension of the
- 4 time for filing a return for an additional period of six months.
- 5 (e) The returns required by subsections (a) and (c) shall be
- 6 made in the form prescribed by the department.
- 7 (f) When the decedent was a resident, the returns shall be
- 8 filed with the register. When the decedent was a nonresident,
- 9 the returns shall be filed with the register who issued letters,
- 10 if any, in this Commonwealth; otherwise, the returns shall be
- 11 filed with the department.
- 12 Section 2137. Appraisement. -- The department shall have
- 13 supervision over, and make or cause to be made, fair and
- 14 conscionable appraisements of property the transfer of which is
- 15 subject to tax under this article. The appraisement, unless
- 16 suspended until audit, shall be made within six months after the
- 17 return has been filed and, if not so made, shall be made within
- 18 an additional period as the court, upon application of any party
- 19 in interest, including the personal representative, shall fix.
- 20 Section 2138. Deductions. -- The official with whom the return
- 21 is required by subsection (f) of section 2136 to be filed shall
- 22 determine the allowance or disallowance of all deductions
- 23 claimed. The determination, unless suspended until audit, shall
- 24 be made within six months after the claim for allowance has been
- 25 filed and, if not so made, shall be made within such further
- 26 period as the court, upon application by any party in interest,
- 27 including the personal representative, shall fix. However, the
- 28 court, at the request of the fiduciary at the audit of his
- 29 account, may determine and allow, as deductions, all properly
- 30 deductible credits claimed in the account or allowed at the

- 1 audit without requiring the filing of a separate claim for them,
- 2 and the court may then fix the amount of the tax and decree
- 3 payment of the tax. Deductions exceeding one hundred dollars
- 4 (\$100) in the aggregate shall not be allowed by the court unless
- 5 the Commonwealth is represented at the audit by counsel or
- 6 unless there is proof that the register has had at least thirty
- 7 days notice of the claim.
- 8 Section 2139. Assessment of Tax.--After the appraisement has
- 9 been made and the allowance or disallowance of deductions
- 10 determined, the inheritance tax, as affected by the court's
- 11 determination of the allowance or disallowance of deductions as
- 12 provided in section 2138, shall be assessed by the official with
- 13 whom the return is required to be filed under subsection (f) of
- 14 section 2136. The assessment, unless suspended until audit,
- 15 shall be made within one month after the filing of the
- 16 appraisement or determination of deductions, whichever occurs
- 17 later, and, if not so made, shall be made within an additional
- 18 period as the court, upon application by any party in interest,
- 19 including the personal representative, shall fix.
- 20 Section 2140. Notice. -- The department shall give, or cause
- 21 to be given, notice of the filing of the appraisement, the
- 22 determination of the allowance or disallowance of deductions and
- 23 the amount of tax assessed, and all supplements, to the personal
- 24 representative and to any transferee who filed a tax return or
- 25 to their respective attorneys.
- 26 Section 2141. Failure to File Returns Not a Bar to
- 27 Assessment of Tax.--Failure to file a return of a taxable
- 28 transfer shall not bar the making of an appraisement or
- 29 supplemental appraisement or assessment of tax or supplemental
- 30 assessment of tax based upon taxable transfers not returned

- 1 under the provisions of this article.
- 2 Section 2142. Payment Date and Discount. -- Inheritance tax is
- 3 due at the date of the decedent's death and shall become
- 4 delinquent at the expiration of nine months after the decedent's
- 5 death. To the extent that the inheritance tax is paid within
- 6 three months after the death of the decedent, a discount of five
- 7 per cent shall be allowed.
- 8 Section 2143. Interest.--If the inheritance tax is not paid
- 9 before the date it becomes delinquent, interest on the unpaid
- 10 tax shall be charged after the date of delinquency at the rate
- 11 established pursuant to section 806 of the act of April 9, 1929
- 12 (P.L.343, No.176), known as "The Fiscal Code." When payment of
- 13 inheritance tax is not made because of litigation or other
- 14 unavoidable cause of delay and the property on which the tax has
- 15 been calculated has remained in the hands of a fiduciary and has
- 16 not produced a net income equal to the rate of interest provided
- 17 in this section annually, interest for such period shall be
- 18 calculated at the rate of the net income produced by the
- 19 property. Any payment on delinquent inheritance tax shall be
- 20 applied first to any interest due on the tax at the date of
- 21 payment and then, if there is any balance, to the tax itself.
- Section 2144. Source of Payment. -- (a) In the absence of a
- 23 contrary intent appearing in the will, the inheritance tax,
- 24 including interest, on the transfer of property which passes by
- 25 will absolutely and in fee, and which is not part of the
- 26 residuary estate, shall be paid out of the residuary estate and
- 27 charged in the same manner as a general administration expense
- of the estate. The payments shall be made by the personal
- 29 representative and, if not so paid, shall be made by the
- 30 transferee of the residuary estate.

- 1 (b) In the absence of a contrary intent appearing in the
- 2 inter vivos trust, the inheritance tax, including interest, on
- 3 the transfer of property which passes absolutely and in fee by
- 4 inter vivos trust, and which is not part of the residue of the
- 5 inter vivos trust, shall be paid out of the residue of the trust
- 6 and charged in the same manner as a general administration
- 7 expense of the trust. The payment shall be made by the trustee
- 8 and, if not so paid, shall be made by the transferee of the
- 9 residue of the trust.
- 10 (c) In the absence of a contrary intent appearing in the
- 11 will, the inheritance tax, including interest, on the transfer
- 12 of property which passes by will other than absolutely and in
- 13 fee, and which is not part of the residuary estate, shall be
- 14 paid out of the residuary estate and charged in the same manner
- 15 as a general administration expense of the estate. The payment
- 16 shall be made by the personal representative and, if not so
- 17 paid, shall be made by the transferee of the residuary estate.
- 18 (d) In the absence of a contrary intent appearing in the
- 19 inter vivos trust, the inheritance tax, including interest, on
- 20 the transfer of property which passes other than absolutely and
- 21 in fee by inter vivos trust, and which is not part of the
- 22 residue of the inter vivos trust, shall be paid out of the
- 23 residue of the trust and charged in the same manner as a general
- 24 administration expense of the trust. The payment shall be made
- 25 by the trustee and, if not so paid, shall be made by the
- 26 transferee of the residue of the trust.
- (e) In the absence of a contrary intent appearing in the
- 28 will or other instrument of transfer, the inheritance tax, in
- 29 the case of a transfer of any estate, income or interest for a
- 30 term of years, for life or for other limited period, shall be

- 1 paid out of the principal of the property by which the estate,
- 2 income or interest is supported, except as otherwise provided in
- 3 subsection (c) or (d). The payment shall be made by the personal
- 4 representative or trustee and, if not so paid, shall be made by
- 5 the transferee of such principal.
- 6 (e.1) In the absence of a contrary intent appearing in the
- 7 will or other instrument of transfer creating the trust or
- 8 similar arrangement, and in the absence of a contrary intent
- 9 appearing in the will or other instrument of transfer of the
- 10 surviving spouse which expressly refers to the trust or similar
- 11 arrangement, the inheritance tax, including interest, due at the
- 12 death of a surviving spouse with respect to a trust or similar
- 13 arrangement to which section 2113(b) is applicable shall be paid
- 14 out of the residue of the principal of the trust or similar
- 15 arrangement and charged as a general administration expense of
- 16 the trust or similar arrangement. The payment shall be made by
- 17 the trustee or other fiduciary in possession of the property
- 18 and, if not so paid, shall be made by the transferee of the
- 19 residue of the trust or similar arrangement.
- (f) In the absence of a contrary intent appearing in the
- 21 will or other instrument of transfer and except as otherwise
- 22 provided in this section, the ultimate liability for the
- 23 inheritance tax, including interest, shall be upon each
- 24 transferee.
- 25 Section 2145. Estate Tax Return.--(a) The person or persons
- 26 required by section 2136 to make the inheritance tax return
- 27 shall be initially liable for payment of the estate tax.
- (b) The personal representative of every decedent or, if
- 29 there is no personal representative, any other fiduciary charged
- 30 by law with the duty of filing a Federal estate tax return,

- 1 within one month of the filing or receipt of the return shall
- 2 file with the register or, if the decedent was a nonresident,
- 3 with the register who issued letters, if any, in this
- 4 Commonwealth, or otherwise with the department, a copy of the
- 5 decedent's Federal estate tax return and of any communication
- 6 from the Federal Government making any final change in the
- 7 return or of the tax due. The assessment of estate tax shall be
- 8 made by the register or department within three months after the
- 9 filing of the documents required to be filed and, if not so
- 10 made, shall be made within an additional period as the court,
- 11 upon application of any party in interest, including the
- 12 personal representative, shall fix.
- (c) The estate tax is due at the date of the decedent's
- 14 death but shall not become delinquent until the expiration of
- 15 nine months after decedent's death. Any estate tax occasioned by
- 16 a final change in the Federal return or of the tax due shall not
- 17 become delinquent until the expiration of one month after the
- 18 person or persons liable to pay the tax have received final
- 19 notice of the increase in the Federal estate tax.
- (d) No discount shall be allowed in paying the estate tax.
- 21 (e) If the estate tax is not paid before the date it becomes
- 22 delinquent under subsection (c), interest on the unpaid tax
- 23 shall be charged after the date of delinquency at the rate
- 24 established in section 2143.
- 25 (f) The estate tax shall be apportioned and ultimately borne
- 26 in accordance with the provisions of 20 Pa.C.S. Ch. 37 (relating
- 27 to apportionment of death taxes) unless otherwise provided by
- 28 this article or in the instrument of transfer.
- (g) When the decedent was a resident, the estate tax shall
- 30 be paid to the register. When the decedent was a nonresident,

- 1 the estate tax shall be paid to the register who issued letters,
- 2 if any, in this Commonwealth; otherwise, it shall be paid to the
- 3 department.
- 4 Section 2146. Deduction and Collection of Tax by Personal
- 5 Representative or Other Fiduciary. -- Subject to the provisions of
- 6 sections 2144 and 2154, every personal representative or other
- 7 fiduciary (other than a trustee of a pension, stock-bonus,
- 8 profit-sharing, retirement annuity, deferred compensation,
- 9 disability, death benefit, or other employe benefit plan) in
- 10 charge of or in possession of any property, or instrument
- 11 evidencing ownership of property, the transfer of which is
- 12 subject to a tax imposed by this article other than a tax on a
- 13 future interest not yet delinquent, shall deduct the tax from
- 14 the property, if money, or shall collect the tax from the
- 15 transferee. Any delivery of property or instrument by the
- 16 fiduciary to a transferee, except in accordance with a decree of
- 17 distribution of the court or pursuant to a duly executed notice
- 18 of election filed under section 2154, shall not relieve him of
- 19 personal liability for a tax imposed by this article. No
- 20 personal representative or other fiduciary in charge of or in
- 21 possession of any property subject to this article shall be
- 22 compelled to pay or deliver it to the transferee except upon
- 23 payment to him of the tax due other than tax on a future
- 24 interest not yet delinquent. If the transferee neglects or
- 25 refuses to pay the tax, the personal representative or other
- 26 fiduciary may sell the property subject to the tax, or so much
- of the property as is necessary, under direction of the court.
- 28 All money retained by the personal representative or other
- 29 fiduciary, or paid to him on account of the taxes imposed by
- 30 this article, shall be remitted by him before the tax becomes

- 1 delinquent or, if received after the tax becomes delinquent,
- 2 shall be remitted by him promptly upon its receipt.
- 3 Section 2147. Duties of Depositories. -- When money is
- 4 deposited or invested in a financial institution located in this
- 5 Commonwealth in the names of two or more persons, other than
- 6 husband and wife, or in the name of a person or persons in trust
- 7 for another or others, and one of the parties to the deposit or
- 8 investment dies, it shall be the duty of the financial
- 9 institution, within ten days after knowledge of the death, to
- 10 notify the department, giving the name of the deceased person,
- 11 the date of the creation of the joint or trust deposit or
- 12 investment, the amount invested or on deposit at the date of
- 13 death with the financial institution and the name and address of
- 14 the survivor or survivors to the account. No notification shall
- 15 be required in regard to the account when the deposit at the
- 16 time of death does not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).
- 17 Section 2148. Compromise by Department. -- The department,
- 18 with the approval of the Attorney General, may compromise in
- 19 writing, with the person liable, the tax, including interest on
- 20 the tax, payable on any transfer of property included in the
- 21 estate of any decedent who it is alleged was a nonresident at
- 22 the time of his death. A copy of the compromise agreement shall
- 23 be filed with the register who issued letters, if any, in this
- 24 Commonwealth; otherwise, it shall be filed with the department.
- 25 The compromise agreement shall constitute a final determination
- 26 of the matters covered by it and the payment of the tax, as
- 27 fixed by the agreement, shall discharge all persons and property
- 28 from liability with respect to the tax.
- 29 Section 2149. Interstate Compromise and Arbitration of
- 30 Inheritance Taxes. -- When the register or the department alleges

- 1 that a decedent was a resident of this Commonwealth at the time
- of his death, and the taxing authorities of another state or
- 3 territory make a like claim on behalf of their state or
- 4 territory, a written agreement of compromise or a written
- 5 agreement to submit the controversy to a board of arbitrators
- 6 may be made under Part VIII.
- 7 Section 2150. Extension of Time for Payment. -- The department
- 8 may, for reasonable cause, extend the time for payment of any
- 9 part of the inheritance tax and may, if deemed necessary for the
- 10 protection of the interest of this Commonwealth, require the
- 11 transferee in present possession or, if a trust is involved, the
- 12 trustee to file a bond in the name of the Commonwealth with
- 13 sufficient surety, in an amount not exceeding twice the tax
- 14 computed when the bond is given at the highest rate possible in
- 15 the specific contingencies involved (reduced by the amount of
- 16 any partial payment made) and conditioned for the payment of the
- 17 tax at such postponed due date, together with interest from the
- 18 due date to the payment date. No bond shall be required under
- 19 this section if the trustee or one of the trustees is a bank and
- 20 trust company or a trust company incorporated in this
- 21 Commonwealth or a national banking association having its
- 22 principal office in this Commonwealth. The bond required shall
- 23 be filed in the office of the register.
- Section 2151. Bond for Delinquent Tax.--The court, in its
- 25 discretion, at any time after a tax imposed by this article
- 26 becomes delinquent, upon application of the department, may
- 27 require any person liable for a tax imposed by this article to
- 28 give a bond for its payment. The bond shall be in the name of
- 29 the Commonwealth, in such amount and with such surety as the
- 30 court approves and conditioned for the payment of the tax, plus

- 1 interest at the same rate as the interest rate on deficiencies
- 2 provided for in section 2143, commencing on the date the tax
- 3 became delinguent, within a time certain to be fixed by the
- 4 court and specified in the bond. The bond required shall be
- 5 filed in the office of the register.
- 6 Section 2152. Evidence of Payment of Tax for Real Estate in
- 7 Another County. -- When any tax is imposed and paid under this
- 8 article on real estate located in a county other than that of
- 9 the register who received payment, the register shall, upon
- 10 request, immediately forward to the register of the county where
- 11 the real estate is located a certificate of the payment of the
- 12 tax on the real estate which shall be entered of record in his
- 13 office. The register of the county where the real estate is
- 14 located shall be entitled to a fee of two dollars (\$2) for
- 15 entering the record of payment to be paid as a part of the
- 16 administration expenses of the decedent's estate.
- 17 Section 2153. Penalties. -- (a) Any person who willfully
- 18 fails to file a return or other report required of him under the
- 19 provisions of sections 2136 and 2145 shall be personally liable,
- 20 in addition to any liability imposed elsewhere in this article,
- 21 to a penalty of twenty-five per cent of the tax ultimately found
- 22 to be due or one thousand dollars (\$1,000), whichever is less,
- 23 to be recovered by the department as debts of like amount are
- 24 recoverable by law.
- 25 (b) Any financial institution which fails to give the notice
- 26 required by section 2147 shall be liable to a penalty of one
- 27 hundred dollars (\$100) to be recovered by the department as
- 28 debts of like amount are recoverable by law.
- (c) Any person who willfully makes a false return or report
- 30 required of him under the provisions of this article, in

- 1 addition to any liability imposed elsewhere in this article,
- 2 commits a misdemeanor of the third degree.
- 3 Section 2154. Payment of Tax for Small Business Transfers.--
- 4 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2142, the
- 5 inheritance tax due under this article on the transfer of a
- 6 small business interest may be paid by the qualified transferee
- 7 in consecutive quarterly installments beginning immediately
- 8 following the expiration of nine months after the decedent's
- 9 death. The tax may be paid in twenty consecutive quarterly
- 10 installments.
- 11 (b) The tax shall be paid in consecutive quarterly
- 12 installments due on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December
- 13 31 of each year, provided the return required by section 2136 is
- 14 timely filed, along with a notice of election executed by the
- 15 qualified transferee and joined in by the personal
- 16 representative which shall relieve the personal representative
- 17 or other fiduciary of liability for the collection and payment
- 18 of tax under section 2146. The notice of election shall be
- 19 completed on a form prescribed by the department containing at
- 20 least the following information:
- 21 (1) The name of the decedent and date of death.
- (2) The name or names of the personal representative or
- 23 other fiduciary.
- 24 (3) The name or names of the qualified transferees filing
- 25 the election.
- 26 (4) A description and estimated valuation of the business
- 27 interest on which tax is due.
- (5) A statement that the qualified transferees assume full
- 29 personal responsibility for the tax.
- 30 Each notice of election shall be affirmed before an officer

- 1 empowered to administer oaths. The installment payment of tax
- 2 shall bear interest at the rate of nine per cent per annum.
- 3 (c) In the event any portion of a small business interest on
- 4 which the installment payment of tax has been elected is sold,
- 5 exchanged or otherwise disposed of prior to the expiration of
- 6 five years following the date of death and that portion equals
- 7 or exceeds fifty per cent of the total value of the small
- 8 business interest received by the qualified transferee, the
- 9 transferee shall immediately provide written notice of the sale,
- 10 exchange or disposition to the department, and the full amount
- 11 of the tax then outstanding on that portion shall become due and
- 12 payable at the expiration of sixty days following the date of
- 13 sale, exchange or other disposition.
- (d) For purposes of this section, the term "small business
- 15 interest" means an interest in an operating trade or business
- 16 entity the principal purpose of which is not the management of
- 17 investments or income producing assets owned by the entity which
- 18 has employed an average of less than fifty full-time employes
- 19 during the twelve months immediately preceding the date of death
- 20 and which meets one of the following criteria:
- 21 (1) An interest as a proprietor in a trade or business
- 22 carried on as a proprietorship.
- (2) An interest as a partner in a partnership carrying on a
- 24 trade or business if:
- (i) twenty per cent or more of the total capital interest in
- 26 the partnership is included in determining the gross estate of
- 27 the decedent; or
- (ii) the partnership had ten or less partners.
- 29 (3) Stock in a corporation carrying on a trade or business
- 30 if:

- 1 (i) twenty per cent or more in value of the voting stock of
- 2 the corporation is included in determining the gross estate of
- 3 the decedent; or
- 4 (ii) the corporation had ten or less shareholders.
- 5 (e) Qualified transferee defined. -- For purposes of this
- 6 section, the term "qualified transferee" means a legatee or
- 7 other transferee receiving:
- 8 (1) ten per cent or more of the value of a proprietorship
- 9 qualifying as a small business interest as defined in subsection
- 10 (d);
- 11 (2) ten per cent or more of the total capital interest in a
- 12 partnership qualifying as a small business interest as defined
- 13 in subsection (d); or
- (3) ten per cent or more in value of the voting stock of a
- 15 corporation qualifying as a small business interest as defined
- 16 in subsection (d).
- 17 PART VIII
- 18 UNIFORM ACT ON INTERSTATE COMPROMISE AND
- ARBITRATION OF INHERITANCE TAXES
- 20 Section 2156. Short Title. -- This part shall be known and may
- 21 be cited as the "Uniform Act on Interstate Compromise and
- 22 Arbitration of Inheritance Taxes."
- 23 Section 2157. Compromise Agreement and Filing, Interest or
- 24 Penalty for Nonpayment of Taxes. -- When the department or the
- 25 register claims a decedent was domiciled in this Commonwealth at
- 26 the time of his death and the taxing authority of another state
- 27 makes a like claim on behalf of its state, the department may,
- 28 with the approval of the Attorney General, make a written
- 29 agreement of compromise with the other taxing authority and the
- 30 executor or administrator of the decedent that a certain sum

- 1 shall be accepted in full satisfaction of any and all
- 2 inheritance taxes imposed by this Commonwealth, including any
- 3 interest or penalties to the date of signing the agreement. The
- 4 agreement shall also fix the amount to be accepted by the other
- 5 state in full satisfaction of inheritance taxes. The executor or
- 6 administrator of the decedent is authorized to make the
- 7 agreement. The agreement shall conclusively fix the amount of
- 8 tax payable to the Commonwealth without regard to any other
- 9 provision of the laws of this Commonwealth. Unless the tax
- 10 agreed upon is paid within sixty days after the signing of the
- 11 agreement, interest or penalties shall accrue upon the amount
- 12 fixed in the agreement, but the time between the decedent's
- 13 death and the signing of the agreement shall not be included in
- 14 computing the interest or penalties. In the event the aggregate
- 15 amount payable under the agreement to the states involved is
- 16 less than the maximum credit allowable to the estate against the
- 17 Federal estate tax imposed with respect to the estate, the
- 18 personal representatives shall also pay to the department so
- 19 much of the difference between the aggregate amount and the
- amount of such credit as the amount payable to the department
- 21 under the agreement bears to the aggregate amount. A copy of the
- 22 agreement shall be filed in the office of the proper register,
- 23 and any existing appraisement shall be deemed modified according
- 24 to the agreement. In the event no appraisement has been made and
- 25 filed prior to the agreement, the department shall direct an
- 26 appraisement to be made and filed in the office of the proper
- 27 register in accordance with the agreement.
- 28 Section 2158. Arbitration Agreement. -- When the department or
- 29 the register claims that a decedent was domiciled in this
- 30 Commonwealth at the time of his death and the taxing authority

- 1 of another state makes a like claim on behalf of its state, the
- 2 department may, with the approval of the Attorney General, make
- 3 a written agreement with the other taxing authority and with the
- 4 executor or administrator of the decedent to submit the
- 5 controversy to the decision of a board consisting of one or any
- 6 uneven number of arbitrators. The executor or administrator of
- 7 the decedent is authorized to make the agreement. The parties to
- 8 the agreement shall select the arbitrator or arbitrators.
- 9 Section 2159. Arbitration Board. -- (a) The board shall have
- 10 the power to administer oaths, take testimony, subpoena and
- 11 require the attendance of witnesses and the production of books,
- 12 papers and documents and issue commissions to take testimony.
- 13 Subpoenas may be signed by any member of the board. In case of
- 14 failure to obey a subpoena, any judge of a court of record of
- 15 this Commonwealth, upon application by the board, may make an
- order requiring compliance with the subpoena, and the court may
- 17 punish failure to obey the order as a contempt.
- (b) The board shall hold hearings at a time and place it may
- 19 determine, upon reasonable notice to the parties to the
- 20 agreement, all of whom shall be entitled to be heard, to present
- 21 evidence and to examine and cross-examine witnesses.
- (c) Except as provided in subsection (a) in respect to the
- 23 issuance of subpoenas, all questions arising in the course of
- 24 the proceedings shall be determined by a majority vote of the
- 25 board.
- 26 (d) The board shall, by a majority vote, determine the
- 27 domicile of the decedent at the time of his death. This
- 28 determination shall be final for the purpose of imposing and
- 29 collecting inheritance taxes but for no other purpose.
- 30 (e) The compensation and expenses of the members of the

- 1 board and its employes may be agreed upon among the members and
- 2 the executor or administrator and, if they cannot agree, shall
- 3 be fixed by any court having jurisdiction over probate matters
- 4 of the State determined by the board to be the domicile of the
- 5 decedent. The amounts so agreed upon or fixed shall be deemed an
- 6 administration expense and shall be payable by the executor or
- 7 administrator.
- 8 Section 2160. Filing of Determination of Domicile and Other
- 9 Documents. -- The department, register or board, or the executor
- 10 or administrator of the decedent, shall file the determination
- 11 of the board as to domicile, the record of the board's
- 12 proceedings and the agreement, or a duplicate, made pursuant to
- 13 section 2158 with the authority having jurisdiction to assess or
- 14 determine the inheritance taxes in the State determined by the
- 15 board to be the domicile of the decedent and shall file copies
- of the documents with the authorities that would have been
- 17 empowered to assess or determine the inheritance taxes in each
- 18 of the other states involved.
- 19 Section 2161. Interest or Penalties for Nonpayment of
- 20 Taxes. -- In any case where it is determined by the board that the
- 21 decedent died domiciled in this Commonwealth, interest or
- 22 penalties, if otherwise imposed by law, for nonpayment of
- 23 inheritance taxes between the date of the agreement and of
- 24 filing of the determination of the board as to domicile shall
- 25 not exceed the rate provided for in section 2143.
- 26 Section 2162. Compromise by Parties to Arbitration
- 27 Agreement. -- The provisions of this part shall not prevent at any
- 28 time a written compromise, if otherwise lawful, by all parties
- 29 to the agreement made pursuant to section 2157, fixing the
- 30 amounts to be accepted by this Commonwealth and any other state

- 1 involved in full satisfaction of inheritance taxes.
- 2 Section 2163. Reciprocal Application. -- The provisions of
- 3 this part relative to arbitration shall apply only to cases in
- 4 which and so far as each of the states involved has a law
- 5 identical or substantially similar to this part.
- PART IX
- 7 COLLECTION OF TAX
- 8 Section 2166. Timely Mailing Treated as Timely Filing and
- 9 Payment. -- Notwithstanding the provisions of any State tax law to
- 10 the contrary, whenever a report or payment of all or any portion
- 11 of a State tax is required by law to be received by the
- 12 department or other agency of the Commonwealth on or before a
- 13 day certain, the taxpayer shall be deemed to have complied with
- 14 the law if the letter transmitting the report or payment of the
- 15 tax which has been received by the department is postmarked by
- 16 the United States Postal Service on or prior to the final day on
- 17 which the payment is to be received. For the purposes of this
- 18 article, presentation of a receipt indicating that the report or
- 19 payment was mailed by registered or certified mail on or before
- 20 the due date shall be evidence of timely filing and payment. Any
- 21 inheritance tax return filed after July 1, 2012, under section
- 22 2136 that reports transfers of property that are exempt from the
- 23 inheritance tax under section 2111(s), (s.1) and (t) shall be
- 24 considered timely filed if filed within one year of the tax
- 25 return due date, including an extended due date.
- 26 Section 2167. Lien and Duration of Lien. -- The taxes imposed
- 27 by this article, together with any interest on the taxes, shall
- 28 be a lien upon the real property included in the transfer on
- 29 which the taxes are imposed. Except as otherwise provided in
- 30 this part, the lien shall remain until the taxes and interest

- 1 are paid in full.]
- 2 Section 2. Sections 2702(c) and 2901(b) of the act are
- 3 amended to read:
- 4 Section 2702. Petition for reassessment.
- 5 * * *
- 6 [(c) Application to inheritance and estate taxes.--This
- 7 section shall not apply to the taxes imposed by Article XXI.
- 8 Part XI of Article XXI shall provide the exclusive procedure for
- 9 protesting the appraisement and assessment of taxes imposed by
- 10 Article XXI.]
- 11 Section 2901. Taxability of Government Obligations.--* * *
- [(b) Government obligations described in subsection (a)
- 13 shall continue to be subject to inheritance and estate taxes
- 14 imposed by Article XXI.]
- 15 * * *
- 16 Section 3. The amendment or repeal of Article XXI and
- 17 sections 2702(c) and 2901(b) of the act shall apply to
- 18 inheritance tax imposed as to a decedent whose date of death is
- 19 after the effective date of this section.
- 20 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.