CHAPTER 49
FORMERLY
HOUSE BILL NO. 226
AS AMENDED BY
HOUSE AMENDMENT NO. 1
AND
HOUSE AMENDMENT NO. 3
AND
HOUSE AMENDMENT NO. 2

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO STATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFERRING THE FUNCTIONS OF THE DELAWARE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE TO A DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

WHEREAS, the Honorable John C. Carney, Governor of the State of Delaware, issued Executive Order One on January 18, 2017 creating a Working Group of business and government leaders to study methods to improve coordination between the public and private sectors, attract and grow businesses and foster economic development throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, the Governor appointed members of the Working Group from government, business and the community representing each area of the State; and

WHEREAS, the Working Group held public meetings in the State to gather input on issues related to business development and retention in the changing economy; and

WHEREAS, the Working Group consulted experts on economic development and studied economic models in other states; and

WHEREAS, the Working Group issued a report to the Governor on April 7, 2017 finding that it is in the best interest of sustained economic growth to establish a public/private partnership in the form of a nonprofit corporation to focus on investment attraction, entrepreneurship and innovation, talent development and retention, and research and analysis; and

WHEREAS, the public/private partnership will attract early stage technology enterprises and entrepreneurs, recruit large employers, expand international business opportunities and develop and implement marketing strategies; and

WHEREAS, the public/private partnership will support start-up businesses and early stage ventures, focusing on high-growth firms and industries, work with employers to fill talent gaps in the workforce and conduct research on trends in industry and opportunities that could impact Delaware’s economy; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the public/private partnership requires the dissolution of the existing Delaware Economic Development Office; and

WHEREAS, efforts to support small businesses and tourism are critical to the State’s economy and these duties and functions should transfer to the Department of State into a Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism; and
WHEREAS, the public/private partnership and the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism will coordinate and cooperate to improve efficiency, eliminate redundancy and foster business attraction, innovation, tourism, small business development, business retention, minority, women, disadvantaged and veteran owned businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

Section 1. Amend Title 29 of the Delaware Code by creating a new Chapter 87A entitled “Economic Development” and transferring Chapter 50 of Title 29 to Chapter 87A of Title 29, as follows:

Subchapter I. General Provisions

§ 8701A. Legislative findings.
(a) The General Assembly finds and declares that the good order of the State depends upon the steady employment in useful occupations of the citizens of the State. Such steady and useful employment can be made available by encouraging the economic development of the State through the inducement of a full range of commercial, industrial, agricultural and other enterprises to locate, remain and expand in the State. Uncontrolled industrialization and expansion, however, may contribute to possible dangers to the public health and welfare through the pollution of the air, water and soil of the State. The reduction, abatement and prevention of the pollution of the State's environment and the protection of its natural resources are important concerns to be considered in the process of encouraging the economic development of the State.
(b) The General Assembly further finds that promotion of the State as a destination for tourists and other travelers will help to enhance the State's economy and provide employment and recreational opportunities for citizens of the State.
(c) The General Assembly further finds that promotion and assistance to small and minority-owned businesses is vital to the overall balance between large and small firms, and that it is in the State's interest to insure a strong and diversified business community.
(d) The General Assembly further finds and declares that the creation of a public/private partnership to attract large employers, innovative enterprises and international business opportunities while transferring duties formerly performed by the Delaware Economic Development Office to a division within the Department of State is in the best interest of the State to foster development in an increasingly competitive economy.

§ 8702A. Definitions.
As used in this chapter:
(1) "Board" means the Tourism Advisory Board created by § 8708A of this chapter.
(2) "Council" means the Council on Development Finance created by § 8707A of this chapter.
(3) “Public/Private Partnership” means a nonprofit corporation not established by the General Assembly consisting of business and community leaders and public officials formed to enhance the State’s ability to attract, grow and retain businesses; facilitate the development of a stronger entrepreneurial and innovative economic system within the State; coordinate with the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism; and, support private
employers within the State in identifying, recruiting and developing talent for the operation of their business within
the State.

(4) "Director" means the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.

(5) “Division” means the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.

(6) "Plan" means the Comprehensive State Plan for Economic Development created by § 8705A of this
title.

(7) “Secretary” means the Secretary of State.

(8) "State" means the State of Delaware.

§ 8703A. Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism — Created; purposes.

(a) There is hereby created a division of economic development which shall be known as the Division of
Small Business, Development and Tourism within the Department of State.

(b) The Division shall be responsible to the Secretary.

(c) The Division shall serve the Secretary in all general and economic development matters, and it shall
function, as required, as an advisory, coordinating and implementing agency:

(1) To harmonize its activities with similar activities of other departments, boards, commissions,
agencies or instrumentalities of federal, state, county or municipal government;

(2) To render, as necessary, assistance to all units of government and to private enterprise;

(3) To stimulate public interest and participation in the orderly growth and development of the
State; and

(4) To insure that all private and public development activities are carried out in conformity with
state law.

§ 8704A. Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism — Appointment, qualifications and
compensation of Director; Acting Director.

(a) The Division shall be headed by the Director. The Director shall be appointed by the Secretary, and
shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. The Director shall be qualified by training and experience to perform the
duties of the position, and preference shall be given to a resident of this State, provided the resident is acceptable
and equally qualified. The Director shall be paid an annual salary established by the Secretary within the limitation
of the funds appropriated therefor.

(b) In the event of the death, resignation, temporary incapacity or removal of the Director, and prior to the
appointment of a successor, the Secretary may appoint any qualified employee of the Division or any of its
subdivisions to serve as Acting Director. The Director may, during an absence from the State, appoint any qualified
employee of the Division or any of its subdivisions to serve as Acting Director during such absence. In either case,
the Acting Director shall have all the powers and shall perform all the duties and functions of the Director during the
Director's absence or incapacity or until a successor is duly appointed and qualified.

§ 8705A. Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism — Powers, duties, and functions of
Director.
The Director shall have the following powers, duties, and functions:

(1) To supervise, direct and account for the administration and operation of the Division, its subdivisions, offices, functions and employees.

(2) To serve as Chairperson of the Delaware Economic Development Authority and to supervise the administration of the Authority and to perform all duties heretofore vested in the Director of the Delaware Economic Development Office and the Secretary of the Department of Community Affairs and Economic Development as shall be related to the Authority.

(3) To appoint and remove the staff of the Division in accordance with this chapter and such other limitations as may be imposed by law.

(4) To advise the Secretary and other officials of the state government on all matters of economic development and to consult with them on matters of economic development affecting the duties and responsibilities of their offices.

(5) To have access (or to designate staff members who shall have access) to information, reports and data which relate to economic development which are in the possession of departments, boards, commissions, agencies or instrumentalities of the State or in the possession of county, municipal or other local agencies and instrumentalities.

(6) To hold hearings on matters of general economic development or such other matters as may be required by law after notice thereof to interested parties.

(7) To attend and participate in meetings of federal, county or municipal economic development bodies, interstate agencies and other entities, whether public or private. The Director may cooperate with such instrumentalities in matters affecting the duties and responsibilities of the Division.

(8) To establish, consolidate or abolish such subdivisions within the Division or transfer or combine the powers, duties and functions of the subdivisions within the Division as the Director may deem necessary, and subject to the approval of the Secretary, provided that all powers, duties and functions required by law shall be provided for and maintained.

(9) To make and enter into any and all contracts, agreements or stipulations, to retain, employ and contract for the services of private and public consultants, professional, research and technical personnel, including the temporary exchange of personnel from all public or private entities, and to procure by contract consulting, research, professional, technical and other services, whenever they shall be deemed by the Director, subject to the approval of the Secretary, necessary or desirable in the performance of the functions of the Division and whenever funds shall be available for such purpose. Legal services shall be procured pursuant to Chapter 25 of this title.

(10) To delegate any of the Director's powers, duties or functions to a member of the staff authorized by this subchapter, except the power to remove employees of the Division or to fix their compensation.

(11) To establish and promulgate such rules and regulations governing the administration and operation of the Division as may be deemed necessary by the Director and which are not inconsistent with the laws of this State.
(12) To occupy and/or maintain such facilities as may be required for the effective and efficient operation of the Division.

(13) To adopt an official seal or seals for the Division, subject to the approval of the Secretary.

(14) To exercise all other powers necessary and proper for the discharge of the Director's duties and such other powers as may be delegated by the Secretary, not inconsistent with state law.

(15) [Repealed.]

(16) To develop a 5-year Comprehensive State Plan for Economic Development.

a. The Plan shall include all of the following:
   1. Description of the Division’s vision, goals, objectives, and strategies.
   2. Identification of business sectors, including those sectors which have potential growth in this State's economy and global business image.
   3. Strategies to encourage the creation and expansion of businesses in this State and the relocation of businesses to this State.
   4. Potential partners for the implementation of the strategy required in paragraph (16)a.3. of this section, including federal and local governments, local and regional organizations for economic development growth, chambers of commerce, private businesses and investors, and nonprofit entities.
   5. Strategies for talent development necessary to encourage economic development growth in this State, taking into consideration factors such as this State's education and training opportunities and available workforce.
   7. Strategies to improve and develop tourism.
   8. An analysis of current and projected economic indicators, which shall be completed through the Division’s coordination with the appropriate state agencies and shall include:
      A. Unemployment rate.
      B. Average annual wage.
      C. Gross domestic product.
      D. Number of jobs created.
      E. Number of jobs retained.
   9. An analysis of the return on investment produced through the Strategic Fund.

b. At least 2 months prior to submitting the Plan as required in this chapter, the Division shall hold a public meeting to allow public input regarding the Plan. The meeting shall be held in all 3 counties in this State. The Division may hold separate meetings in each county or hold 1 meeting and, through the use of technology, provide the public with access to attend and participate in the meeting simultaneously from each of the 3 counties.
c. The Plan shall be submitted every 5 years to the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Secretary, and, for public distribution, to the Director of the Division of Research of Legislative Council and the Director of Public Archives. The Division shall also publish the Plan on the Division’s public website.

§ 8706A. Responsibilities of the Public/Private Partnership and the Division.

(a) The Public/Private Partnership shall be governed by a Board of Directors comprised of no less than 15 members, and shall to be composed of the following:

(1) The Governor, who shall serve as co-chair.

(2) 1 member of the majority party and 1 member of the minority party of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore.

(3) 1 member of the majority party and 1 member of the minority party of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

(4) At least 10 additional members appointed by the Governor. Such members shall collectively represent expertise on various economic development topics, including land use planning, finance, entrepreneurial investment and incubation, workforce development, labor, higher education, and regulatory compliance. 6 of these 10 members shall be chosen from a list of recommended candidates provided by the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce and the Delaware Business Roundtable. 1 of the 6 individuals chosen from this list of recommendations shall be appointed by the Governor to serve as co-chair. The Governor may appoint additional members as necessary.

(b) No financial contribution to the Public/Private Partnership shall be required as a condition of or in connection with an appointment to the Board of Directors.

(c) The Public/Private Partnership formed pursuant to § 8702A(c) shall have the following responsibilities:

(1) Work with the Division to assist early stage technology enterprises and entrepreneurs to apply for grants, loans, bonds or other financial incentives.

(2) Develop the workforce and establish recruiting processes to fill talent gaps in a changing market and continually supply trained workers for an innovative, technology based economy.

(3) Recruit innovative and high-technology employers.

(4) Expand international business opportunities.

(5) Develop marketing strategies for long term growth.

(6) Provide guidance to start-up businesses and early stage ventures, focusing on high-growth firms and industries.

(7) Conduct research on trends in industry and opportunities that may impact Delaware’s economy.

(8) Coordinate such other activities to encourage the economic development of the State through commercial, industrial, agricultural and other enterprises to locate, remain and expand in the State.
(d) The Public/Private Partnership shall submit the following annual reports, which shall be subject to Chapter 100 of this title, to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before June 30 each year:

(1) Internal Revenue Service Form 990 tax returns.
(2) Audited financial reports.
(3) The organization’s conflict, audit and expense policies.

(e) The Public/Private Partnership shall make available for inspection corporate documents and meeting minutes upon request by the Governor or the General Assembly.

(f) Any director of the Public/Private Partnership who is not a public officer as defined by § 5812(n)(1) of this title shall submit, on or before June 30 each year, to the General Assembly and the Governor the financial information listed in § 5813(a)(1-5) of this title in a form substantially similar to that used by public officers to disclose financial information to the Public Integrity Commission; provided however, that any financial information submitted by such directors shall not constitute public records subject to Chapter 100 of this title.

(g) The conflict of interest policy for the Public/Private Partnership shall include the following provisions:

(1) All members, directors, officers, or members of any committee with powers delegated to it by the Board of Directors of the Public/Private Partnership shall have a duty to disclose any actual or possible conflict of interest or financial interest related to any proposed transaction, contract, or arrangement under consideration by the Public/Private Partnership.
(2) Procedures for addressing a conflict of interest, including consideration of alternatives to the proposed transaction, contract, or arrangement that do not present a conflict of interest.
(3) Procedures to determine whether a violation of the conflict of interest policy has occurred.
(4) A clear statement that any person found to have violated the conflict of interest policy shall be removed from that person’s position.
(5) Provision for periodic review of the operations of the Public/Private Partnership to ensure compliance with the conflict of interest policy and that compensation arrangements and benefits are reasonable and the result of arm’s length bargaining.

(h) The Division shall:

(1) Be responsible for attracting new investors and businesses to the State, promoting the expansion of existing industry, assisting small and minority-owned businesses, promoting and developing tourism and creating new and improved employment opportunities for all citizens of the State at every economic level, provided that such development is carried out with a view to preserving existing agriculture, commercial, industrial and recreational opportunities to be had within the State and conserving the natural resources and wildlife of the State.
(2) Act as the Governor's principal staff agency in economic development matters; make studies and investigations, insofar as they may be relevant to the State's economy, of the resources of the State and of existing and emerging problems of agriculture, industry, commerce, transportation and other matters affecting the development of the State and, in making such studies, seek the cooperation and collaboration
of the appropriate departments, boards, commissions, agencies and instrumentalities of federal, state and local government, educational institutions and research organizations, whether public or private, and of civic groups and private persons and organizations; render advice and act as the Governor's designated agency in the execution of such matters relating to its powers as the Governor may request.

(3) Provide information to, and cooperate with, the General Assembly or any of its committees in connection with studies relevant to the overall development of the State's economy.

(4) Cooperate with, and within the limitations of its appropriations, provide requested assistance to county or local governments in the State, or any of their instrumentalities; and cooperate with and assist departments and other agencies or instrumentalities of federal, state and local government, as well as regional, metropolitan, county, municipal or other local or private agencies in the execution of their functions with a view to harmonizing their development activities with the overall development plans and policies of the State. Whenever cooperation or assistance under this subdivision includes the rendering of technical services, such services may be rendered free or in accordance with an agreement for reimbursement.

(5) Provide information to officials of departments, boards, commissions, agencies and instrumentalities of state and local government, to civic and other groups, and to the public at large in order to foster public awareness and understanding of the objectives of a strong state economy and to stimulate public interest and participation in the orderly and integrated development of the State.

(6) Accept and receive, in furtherance of its function, funds, grants and services from the federal government or its agencies, from departments, agencies and instrumentalities of state or local government or from private and civic sources.

(7) Collect, compile and audit the information and data necessary to discharge its principal functions. Where such data cannot be secured from federal, state or local agencies or private organizations, the Division may engage in the required research. Before publishing any historical information, the information shall be reviewed and approved by the Department of State of the State.

(8) Perform and be responsible for the performance of all powers, duties and functions heretofore vested in the Delaware Office of Economic Development immediately prior to July 1, 2017, and the Division of Economic Development of the Department of Community Affairs and Economic Development immediately prior to November 1, 1981.

(9) Exercise all other powers necessary and proper for the discharge of its duties.

(i) The Public/Private Partnership and the Division will coordinate on proposed economic development projects for consideration by the Council, as necessary.

§ 8707A. Council on Development Finance.

(a) The Council on Development Finance is hereby established and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Director and shall consider matters relating to the financing and modernization of agricultural, industrial, commercial, emerging technologies and other facilities in the State and such other matters as may be referred to it by
the Governor, or by the Director. The Council may study research, plan and advise the Director and the Governor on matters relating to economic development and strategic opportunities. The Council may consider projects and initiatives proposed by a Public/Private Partnership and make recommendations to the Division.

(b)(1) The Office of Management and Budget and the Office of the Controller General shall appoint 1 desigee from each of their respective offices to support the staff of the Council. Upon request of the Council, the designees shall assist the Council by providing relevant analysis and research. The designees must be available to attend all Council meetings.

(2) The chair of the Council, with prior notice to the Controller General, may engage professional contractual services when necessary to provide analysis and research for specific applications recommended to the Council by the Division of Small Business, Development, and Tourism. The Office of the Controller General shall administer contracts for such services.

§ 8708A. Tourism Advisory Board.

(a) The Tourism Advisory Board is hereby established and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Director and shall consider matters relating to the promotion of the State as a destination for tourists and other travelers and such other matters as may be referred to it, by the Governor, the Secretary, or by the Director. The Board may study, research, plan and advise the Director, the Secretary, and the Governor, on matters it deems appropriate to enable the Division to function in the best possible manner.

(d) The Director, or such person designated by the Director, shall serve as Secretary to the Board, and shall maintain minutes of all meetings and such other records as are deemed necessary by the Director.

§ 8709A. Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism — Staff.

The Director and all employees of the Division shall be exempt from Chapter 59 of this title.

§ 8710A. Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism — Collection and distribution of information; sale of publications.

(a) The Division may collect and disseminate any data or other information including, but not limited to, the population, demographics and economy of the State. The Division shall take such steps as the Director deems appropriate to emphasize the investment, business, employment and recreational opportunities and advantages of the State, and the potential for future development within the State.

(b) The Division may elect to publish any information on its own or to use any of the accepted advertising media to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The Division may also distribute information and materials donated to, or purchased by, the Division, from private or public agencies, organizations, corporations or individuals.

(d) Such moneys as received by the Division from the sale of publications and materials shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the State in a special fund of the State upon which the Director may draw to replace such publications and materials offered for sale. Unexpended funds remaining in the special fund at the close of the fiscal year, and not previously expended or encumbered, shall not revert but shall remain on deposit in such special fund for future use pursuant to this section.

§ 8711A. Delaware Economic Development Office — Preparation of annual capital budget.
§ 8712A. Assistance for tourism and business promotion.

§ 8713A. Assumption of powers of Division.

The Division shall have the power to perform and shall be responsible for the performance of all powers, duties and functions heretofore vested by law in the Division of Economic Development of the Department of Community Affairs and Economic Development immediately prior to November 1, 1981, and the Delaware Economic Development Office prior to July 1, 2017, and which are not otherwise specifically transferred by this chapter.

§ 8714A. Rights of appeals continued.

Any and all rights of appeal now existing by law with respect to any act or acts constituting the exercise of any function or functions transferred by this chapter to the Division, to any subdivision thereof or to any council or board created by this chapter shall continue to exist with respect to such act or acts as hereafter performed by the Division, by the subdivision, by the council or by the board to which such function is transferred by this chapter, and each such appeal shall be perfected in the manner heretofore provided by law.

§ 8715A. Transition provisions.

(a) All property, including all books, records, papers, maps, charts, plans, equipment and other materials owned by or in the possession of any agency of the State and used in connection with a function transferred by law to the Delaware Economic Development Office on November 1, 1981, and all property, including all books, records, papers, maps, charts, plans, equipment and other materials owned by or in the possession of any agency of the State and used in connection with a function transferred by this chapter to the Division on July 1, 2017, shall be delivered into the custody of the Division. All investigations, petitions, hearings and legal proceedings pending before, or instituted by, any agency from which functions are transferred by this chapter and which are not concluded prior to June 30, 2017, shall continue unabated and remain in full force and effect, notwithstanding the passage of this chapter and, where necessary, may be completed before, by or in the name of the Division. All orders, rules and regulations made by any agency from which functions are transferred by this chapter and which govern such functions, and which are in effect upon June 30, 2017, shall remain in full force and effect until revoked or modified in accordance with law by the Division. All contracts and obligations of any agency made or undertaken in the performance of a function transferred by law to the Delaware Economic Development Office and being in force on November 1, 1981, and all contracts and obligations of any agency made or undertaken in the performance of a function transferred by this chapter to the Division, and being in force on June 30, 2017, shall, notwithstanding this chapter, remain in full force and effect and be performed by the Division. All real estate owned by any agency from whom functions are transferred by this chapter to the Division, shall become property of the Division as of July 1, 2017.

(b) All definitions and references to any commission, board, department, council or agency which appear in any other act or law shall, to the extent that they are consistent with this chapter and in connection with a function transferred by this chapter to the Division or to any subdivision thereof or to any council or board created by this
chapter, be construed as referring and relating to the Division, to the appropriate subdivision thereof or to the
council or board as created and established by this chapter.

(c) All definitions and references to any director, commissioner, executive secretary, commission, board or
council member or other similar person which appear in any other act or law shall, to the extent that they are
consistent with this chapter and in connection with a function transferred by this chapter to the Division or to any
subdivision thereof or to any council or board created by this chapter, be construed as referring to or relating to the
equivalent person or persons and their powers, duties and functions as established and created in this chapter.

§ 8716A. Reports.

(a) The Division shall submit an annual report on or before September 1 of each year. The annual report
shall detail the status of the Division’s efforts to meet the vision, goals, objectives, strategies, and economic
indicators included in its comprehensive economic development planning.

(b) The Division shall submit a summary of the work of the Council on Development Finance on or before
October 15 of each year.

(c) The Division shall also submit special reports upon the request of the Governor, the General Assembly,
the Secretary, the Council on Development Finance, the Tourism Advisory Board, or at the discretion of the
Director of those aspects of the Division’s work which may be deemed of current interest. Copies of all reports shall
be made available for general distribution or sale and published on the Division’s public website.

(d) In preparing any reports on its operations, the Division may seek the advice of outside experts in the
fields of tourist and travel promotion or general economic development.

(e) The Division shall submit all reports, when due, to the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Secretary, and, for public distribution, to the Director of the Division
of Research of Legislative Council and the Director of Public Archives. The Division shall also publish the reports
on the Division’s public website.

§ 8717A. Misnomer of Division in donation.

Any misnomer shall not defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise or bequest to the Division if it sufficiently
appears by the will, conveyance or other writing that the party making the same intended to pass and convey thereby
to the Division, the estate or interest therein expressed or described.

§ 8718A. Budget.

The Director shall prepare a proposed budget for the operation of the Division to be submitted along with
the proposal for the Department of State for the consideration of the Secretary, Governor and the General Assembly.
The budget may be presented in any manner consistent with guidelines provided by the Director of the Office of
Management and Budget; provided, however, that at least 1 budget unit, or successor budgetary component, shall
detail the proposed budget for the support of tourism. The Division shall be operated within the limitation of the
annual appropriation and any other funds appropriated by the General Assembly. Special funds may be used in
accordance with approved programs, grants or appropriations.

§ 8719A. Supremacy.
Subchapter II. Delaware Strategic Fund

§ 8727A. Findings and purpose; creation of the Fund.

(b) A special fund to be known as the "Delaware Strategic Fund" ("Fund") shall be created.

1) The Fund shall initially consist of $2,250,000 as authorized in 69 Del. Laws, c. 77 to the Delaware Economic Development Office on behalf of the Delaware Economic Development Authority ("Authority") and funds subsequently appropriated to the Authority or the Division. Funds appropriated pursuant to this or subsequent acts are to be used for Fund activities as defined in the following paragraphs. The Fund shall also consist of present balances and future payments of moneys transferred from discontinued programs.

§ 8728A. Fund purposes.

(a) Moneys appropriated to the Fund may be loaned, granted or used in other financing mechanisms by the Authority within the State. The Fund may be used for the following purposes:

4) To the extent provided in subsection (c) of this section, and for 1 or more of the purposes set forth in paragraphs (a)(1) through (3) of this section, environmental assessment and remediation of certified brownfields and Subchapter III of this chapter regarding the Delaware Technical Innovative Program.

For purposes other than stated above, the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Capital Improvement Program, Director of the Office of Management and Budget and Controller General shall be informed prior to any action by the Division.

(b) Moneys appropriated to the Fund may be used for the following activities:

7) Assistance for the development of re-use strategies and implementation plans for sites located in the State and targeted for development by the Division;

§ 8729A. Findings and determinations for assistance.

(b) By December 1 of each year, the Division shall report the Fund's previous year's uses to the General Assembly. The Director shall notify the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Capital Improvement Program by March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15 of each year on the remaining Strategic Fund balance available for commitment as of the end of the month preceding the required reporting date. The Director shall also notify the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Capital Improvement Program of their intent to make a commitment of funds from the Strategic Fund prior to the commitment being communicated to the intended recipient of those funds.

(d) The amount and type of assistance provided by the Division to a firm through the Strategic Fund will be based upon the following criteria:

Subchapter III. Delaware Technical Innovation Program

§ 8735A. Delaware Technical Innovation Program - Creation; definitions.

(a) There is hereby created the Delaware Technical Innovation Program to be administered by the Division.

(b) For the purpose of this subchapter the following definitions shall apply:
§ 8736A. Duties.

In carrying out this Program, to promote technology development and utilization within the small business sector, the duties of the Division shall include but not be limited to:

§ 8737A. Matching funds for federal Small Business Innovation Research Program.

(b) The Council shall establish criteria and the Division shall administer the state matching funds.

§ 8738A. Reporting.

The Division shall annually report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before January 15.

Subchapter IV. Human Investment and Partnership Program

§ 8739A. Declaration of policy.

The General Assembly recognizes that a successful economic development effort is critical to the long term viability of our State. It further recognizes that the majority of the economic development benefits and increases in jobs will come from the businesses that are currently in the State. It is therefore crucial that the State, through its economic development program, meets the needs of those businesses in an ever changing work place. One of the critical needs for business is a well-trained and well-educated work force. As the pool of younger workers shrinks, business must turn more to women, minorities and senior citizens to fill those jobs. This labor group brings great potential for productivity, but also special needs (such as child care, elder care, flexible work times and retraining). The General Assembly, therefore, intends through this subchapter to address this situation by establishing, in the Division, a Human Investment and Partnership Program, whose responsibility will be to assist Delaware businesses to better utilize that work force talent. With the help of businesses who have successfully dealt with many of these issues and others in the community who have facilitated such activities, the Division will provide that assistance to Delaware businesses.
§ 8740A. Establishment of the Human Investment and Partnership Program.

There is hereby established a Human Investment and Partnership Program within the Division whose purpose is to provide assistance to Delaware businesses in order for them to better utilize the talent pool of women, minorities and senior citizens.

§ 8741A. Responsibilities and functions of the Human Investment and Partnership Program.

§ 8742A. Human Investment and Partnership Council.

Repealed by 77 Del. Laws, c. 106, § 6, effective July 6, 2009.;

§ 8743A. Reporting to the Governor and the General Assembly.

The Division and the Department of Labor shall issue an annual report on progress made by December 30 of each calendar year. The Division will report on its progress, the barriers that exist to women, minorities and senior citizens entering the work force, and what resources, both public and private, are necessary to facilitate the expansion of Delaware's work force.

Subchapter V. The Small Business Revolving Loan and Credit Enhancement Fund

§ 8746A. Legislative intent.

The General Assembly finds that small businesses in the State are of vital significance to Delaware's economic well-being and that small businesses provide the vast majority of jobs in the State. The General Assembly also finds that small businesses have a difficult time borrowing needed funds on a conventional basis due to the high cost of these funds and the reluctance of banks to provide 100 percent financing. To help allay these obstacles, the General Assembly hereby directs the Division to use the Small Business Revolving Loan and Credit Enhancement Fund to assist small businesses in reducing the cost of loan funds by offering partial, low-cost loans or by purchasing credit enhancements for small business' sustenance and growth.

§ 8747A. Creation of the Fund.

§ 8748A. Fund purposes.

§ 8749A. Fund eligibility.

In order for a project to be eligible for the Fund purposes cited in § 8748A of this title, the project must meet the following criteria:

Subchapter VII. Delaware Economic Development Authority

§ 8751A. Findings; declaration of policy.

§ 8752A. Definitions.

The following words and terms, unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning, shall have the following respective meaning:

(3) "Authority" means the Delaware Economic Development Authority created by § 8753A of this title.

(7) [Repealed.]

(16) [Repealed.]

§ 8753A. Established; organization.
(b) The Authority shall consist of the Director who shall serve ex officio. The Director shall hold office for the term of the Director's appointment. Should a vacancy in the Office of the Director occur, then the Authority shall consist of the Acting Director (with references to the Director in this chapter deemed to refer to such Acting Director) until the Director's successor is duly qualified and appointed.

(e) The Director may designate officers or employees of the Division to represent the Director, and each such designee may lawfully act on behalf of the Director; provided, however, that, except in instances where the Director determines that the Director may have a direct interest in a project as provided in subsection (i) of this section and therefore disassociates from that project, no such designee may lawfully approve a project or adopt a resolution. However, notwithstanding the foregoing, the Director may during absence from the State, in accordance with § 8704A of this title, appoint any qualified employee of the Division to serve as Acting Director during such absence and such Acting Director may, among other things, lawfully approve a project, adopt a resolution or sign a bond. Neither the Director nor any such designee shall be subject to any personal liability or accountability by reason of execution of any bonds or the issuance thereof.

(h) The Office of Auditor of Accounts shall cause an audit of the Authority's bonds issued under § 8754A(d) of this title to be made annually by a certified public accountant licensed to practice in the State. In addition, the Authority shall make an annual report of its activities to the Governor which shall set forth a complete operating and financial statement covering the Authority's operations during the year and shall include the report of the certified public accountant who makes the audit of the Authority's books and accounts. The Authority shall furnish a copy of the annual report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Auditor of Accounts and Controller General.

§ 8754A. Deauthorization of state-guaranteed bonds.

(b) The Authority may issue bonds to refund bonds previously issued by the Authority or any other issuer, past or present, within the State (including, without limitation, the former Department of Community Affairs and Economic Development and the former Delaware Office of Economic Development), including the payment of any redemption premium thereon and any interest accrued to the date of redemption of such bonds.

(d) The Authority may pledge the full faith and credit of the State to the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest due on bonds (whether at stated or accelerated maturity or otherwise) subject to the following conditions:

(1) With respect to any project proposed to be financed by state-guaranteed bonds, the Authority shall find and determine, which findings and determinations shall be conclusive, in addition to making the appropriate findings and determinations required by § 8755A of this title, that:

a. The aggregate principal amount of state-guaranteed bonds, the proceeds of which are used to finance the proposed project together with the aggregate principal amount of outstanding bonds used to finance any other project or projects owned, used, leased or occupied by the same assisted person, or by a related person to the assisted person, does not exceed $3,000,000;
b. Not more than 50 percent of the cost of the proposed project shall be financed by state-guaranteed bonds, and no part of the assisted person's contribution to the cost of a proposed project may be supplied, in whole or in part, by funds appropriated by an act of the General Assembly of the State; and

c. The fulfillment, discharge and satisfaction of the assisted person's obligations under the terms of the lease, mortgage, loan agreement or other financing agreements between the Authority and the assisted person shall be adequately secured.

(5) The assisted person shall be legally obligated to deposit (prior to the delivery of the bonds and from a source other than the proceeds of the bonds), and thereafter maintain, with a person in trust, a cash reserve fund in an amount equal to the maximum principal and interest payable on such bonds during any consecutive 12-month period by such assisted person to the Authority under the terms of the lease, mortgage, loan agreement or other financing agreement between the Authority and such assisted person. Such cash reserve fund shall be pledged solely for the purposes provided in § 8761A of this title and shall not be construed as a security deposit under the State's Landlord Tenant Code (Part III of Title 25).

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision in this subchapter, the Authority shall have the power to issue bonds for the benefit of any exempt person, subject only to the following conditions:

(2) Prior to approving an application for the issuance of such bonds, the Authority shall find and determine, which finding and determination shall be conclusive, on the basis of all information reasonably available to it, that any proposed financing for an exempt person will effectuate the purpose set forth in § 8751A(a)(10) of this title. With respect to such applications, the Authority need not make the findings and determinations otherwise required under this subchapter.

§ 8755A. Application for assistance; findings and determinations.
§ 8756A. Bonds.
§ 8757A. Covenants with bondholders.
§ 8758A. Pledge of revenues or other property.
§ 8759A. Limitation on liability of State.
§ 8760A. Negotiability of bonds.
§ 8761A. Default in payment of state-guaranteed bonds; insufficient revenues to make payment.

If any payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest due to the Authority or to a trustee or other person as assignee of the Authority with respect to a project financed by proceeds from state-guaranteed bonds is in default, or if sufficient revenues are not available to make such payment, the Authority:

(1) Shall forthwith direct (if it has not previously done so) the person holding the cash reserve fund deposited pursuant to § 8754A(d)(5) of this title to apply such cash reserve fund to the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest on such state-guaranteed bonds as the same become due;

(2) Shall forthwith give notice of such default or occurrence to the Governor, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Finance, the Auditor of Accounts, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro
Tempore of the State and the Controller General. Thereafter, the General Assembly shall appropriate sufficient funds to pay principal, premium, if any, and interest on such state-guaranteed bonds when due. Any funds made available pursuant to such appropriation shall be deposited by the Authority in the appropriate cash reserve fund:

§ 8762. Limitation of powers of State.
§ 8763A. Delaware Development Corporation.
§ 8764A. Bonds as legal investments for institutions and fiduciaries.
§ 8765A. Exemption from taxation.
§ 8766A. Property of Authority exempt from judicial process.
§ 8767A. Liberal construction of subchapter.
§ 8768A. Inconsistent laws inapplicable; facsimile signatures.

Subchapter VIII. Delaware Economic Development Training Act

§ 8770A. Definitions.
(d) [Repealed.]
(g) [Repealed.]
§ 8771A. Economic Development Training Board.
Repealed by 71 Del. Laws, c. 163, § 1, effective July 9, 1997.;
§ 8772A. Powers and duties.
§ 8773A. Annual report.

The Director, in the annual report required by § 8716A(a) of this title shall include, but not be limited to, descriptions of all programs funded, an evaluation of the performance of each program, a summary of the public moneys expended and an analysis of the participants in the programs, to include a report on the number of minority and economically disadvantaged individuals.

Subchapter V-A. Development Incentive Fund  [Repealed.]
Subchapter VI. First State Improvement Fund  [Repealed.]

Subchapter IX. Allocation of State Private Activity Bond Ceiling to Governmental Units, Establishment of Industrial Revenue Bond Committee and Reporting Requirements

§ 8790A. Definitions.
The following words and terms, unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning, shall have the following respective meanings:
(1) "Authority" means the Delaware Economic Development Authority created by § 8753A of this title.
(5) "Committee" means the Industrial Revenue Bond Committee established pursuant to § 8792A of this title.
(7) "Secretary of Finance" means the Secretary of Finance of this State.
(8) [Repealed.]
§ 8791A. Allocation of state ceiling.
§ 8792A. Industrial Revenue Bond Committee.
(b) The Committee shall make recommendations to the Governor of the State regarding modification of the allocation of the state ceiling made in § 8791A(a) of this title. The Secretary of Finance shall be responsible for monitoring the volume of private activity bonds issued by each of the participating jurisdictions and for recommending to the Committee changes in the allocation of the state ceiling as circumstances dictate.

§ 8793A. Reports to Secretary of Finance.

(a) The Secretary of Finance is authorized to make such rules and regulations requiring any issuer allocated a volume cap for any calendar year under § 8791A of this title to file with the Secretary of Finance such reports as the Secretary of Finance may deem necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter. Any such reports required by the Secretary of Finance shall contain at least the following information with respect to each obligation issued or planned to be issued by such issuer:

1. A brief description of the project financed or to be financed by such obligation;
2. The amount of such obligation that is subject to such issuer's volume cap, and, to the extent that any portion of such obligation is claimed to be not subject to its volume cap, an opinion of bond counsel to that effect;
3. The date of issuance of such obligation or the date of preliminary approval if such obligation has not yet been issued; and
4. A status report on the issuance, including the anticipated date of issue, if not yet issued.

Subchapter X. Delaware Investment Tax Credit Program

§ 8795A. Legislative findings; authorization.

The General Assembly finds that the growth of small businesses in the State results in increased job opportunities for Delaware residents, produces more spending in the State and increases tax bases. Existing or new small businesses and recently displaced Delaware employees beginning new businesses can provide significant economic benefits to the State provided they can obtain sufficient equity financing to carry them from start-up through the initial development phases of a business. In order to encourage the increased availability of risk equity capital to these enterprises, the Delaware Economic Development Authority is authorized to establish criteria for, and issue, certifications of eligibility for investors qualifying for the Investment Tax Credit Program.

§ 8796A. Eligibility for tax credits.

The Delaware Economic Development Authority ("the Authority") shall, by rules and regulations, establish the Delaware Investment Tax Credit Program ("the Program"), which Program shall provide for qualification of businesses to receive investment from individuals obtaining tax credit certification under the Program and for the certification of qualified investments by individuals for tax credits under § 1116 of Title 30. The Authority shall by rule or regulation set forth qualifications for participation in the Program in accordance with §§ 8797A and 8798A of this title and may issue rules or regulations relating to such other matters as, in the judgment of the Authority, are necessary or desirable to further the purposes of the Program, not inconsistent with the provisions of this subchapter. Rules or regulations issued under this subchapter shall have the force and effect of law.

§ 8797A. Qualification of businesses seeking investment under Program.
§ 8798A. Certification of individuals for tax credits.

Without limitation, the requirements for qualifying for certification of individuals' investments for tax credits under the Program shall include the following:

(1) Individuals may apply for tax credit certification provided:

   a. Such individual's investment is in a business approved to receive such investment under § 8797A of this title;

   b. Such investment must be not less than $10,000 or more than $100,000 in any 1 business; provided that this paragraph shall not limit an applicant from making other investments in the business for which a tax credit is not requested; and

   c. Such application shall be made in such form and at such time as the Authority may by regulation prescribe;

§ 8799A. Revocation of qualification or certification.

(d) Notwithstanding § 581 of Title 30, the Director of Revenue may disclose tax return information of any applicant to the Authority whenever the Authority notifies the Director of Revenue that such information is necessary or desirable for any determination required under this subchapter. The Authority may not further disclose any information received under this subsection except to the Council on Development Finance and then only to the extent necessary for the Council to carry out the duties specified in § 8797A of this title.

Section 2. Amend Title 29 of the Delaware Code by transferring Section 8319, Chapter 83 of Title 29 to Chapter 87A of Title 29 to create a new Subchapter VI entitled “Delaware Motion Picture and Television Development Commission” as follows:

Subchapter VI

Delaware Motion Picture and Television Development Commission

§ 8750A. Delaware Motion Picture and Television Development Commission.

(a) There is hereby established the Delaware Motion Picture and Television Development Commission (the "Commission") which shall consist of 9 members who shall be residents of the State and shall consist of the following:

   (1) Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism;

   (c) The Commission shall be formed under the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.

   (f) The Commission shall have the following powers:

   (8) To assist with obtaining permits from any department, division, board, bureau, commission or other agency of the State or from any county, municipality, authority, or other political subdivision within the State for applicants interested in motion picture and television production within the State.

   (h) The Division shall be responsible for administrative support.

Section 3. Amend Title 29 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 5112. Employees not to be supplied with, nor reimbursed for, food consumed during working hours; exceptions.
(a) No full-time employee of the State whose salary is paid by the State shall receive any additional stipend for the purchase of food, be supplied with food or be reimbursed for food that was consumed during normal working hours within the State.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to:

1. Employees of state agencies who regularly receive wages in kind in addition to their salaries;
2. Employees of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism;

§ 5209. Employees of Delaware authorities or commissions.

(b) Any regularly scheduled full-time employee of the Delaware Stadium Corporation, the Delaware Riverfront Corporation, a Public/Private Partnership as defined in § 8702A of this title, or the Fort DuPont Redevelopment and Preservation Corporation may elect to participate in the health insurance plans provided by the State Group Health Insurance Program. The full cost of such coverage shall be remitted to the State no later than the first day of each calendar month for which coverage is being provided. The benefits provided to such employees and the cost of coverage shall be the same as provided to state employees covered by this chapter. Any Delaware Stadium Corporation, Public/Private Partnership as defined in § 8702A of this title, or Fort DuPont Redevelopment and Preservation Corporation employee participating in the State Group Health Insurance Program shall be governed by all provisions, rules and regulations of this chapter and the State Employee Benefits Committee.

§ 6102A. Twenty-First Century Fund Investments Act.

(f) Neighborhood revitalization.

1. A special fund appropriation account is hereby created in the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism to be known as the "Neighborhood Revitalization Account." The sum appropriated from the Twenty-First Century Fund for Neighborhood Housing Revitalization shall be used to create a program to be administered according to guidelines and procedures developed by the Council on Housing and the State Housing Director to expand affordable housing opportunities for families and improve entire communities through the rehabilitation of existing houses. The Account shall serve as a revolving account and shall be eligible to receive loan repayments.

§ 6938. Purchase of recycled, reusable and recyclable products.

(d) There is established an interagency work group comprised of 1 representative from the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Health and Social Services. This work group shall be known as the State Materials Recycling Team (SMRT) and its members shall be appointed by the respective Department heads. The Chair of the SMRT will be selected by the team's membership. The work group's primary purposes shall be:

§ 7601. State Clearinghouse Committee.

There is hereby established the Delaware State Clearinghouse Committee for federal grant and nonfederal grant coordination. The Committee shall consist of the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson of the Joint Finance Committee, who shall serve as the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson, respectively, of the Clearinghouse
Committee, the Controller General, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, the Secretary of Finance, and 4 members of the General Assembly, as follows: One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore and 1 member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and 1 member appointed by the Speaker of the House and 1 member appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall function as the Secretary of the Committee, and the Office of Management and Budget shall provide the necessary staff support. The Office of Controller General shall provide staff support to the Committee, as required by the Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson. The members of the Committee shall serve until their successors are selected.

§ 8011. Water Infrastructure Advisory Council.

(g) The Council shall work in concert with the DNREC, DHSS, the Department of Transportation, the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation Districts, the Delaware Geological Survey, the Public Service Commission, the DOF, the Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues and any other appropriate department, agency or committee focusing on statewide planning issues and each shall provide reasonable staff time and resources as may be required by the Council to fulfill its duties and responsibilities. The Council shall also work in concert with the Water Resources Agency of New Castle County and any other appropriate agency designated by the counties. The DNREC and DHSS shall be the lead agencies in coordinating support for the Council.


(b) The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control shall manage the Energy Efficiency Investment Fund. The Fund shall be used to incentivize investments in energy efficiency by consumers or users of gas or electricity whose purchase of those commodities from a distributor is subject to the public utility tax on gas or electricity imposed by Chapter 55 of Title 30. The Department shall support implementation of projects that reduce the use of gas, electricity, or other sources through the issuance of competitive grants, low-interest loans, or other financing support from the Fund. The Department shall establish the contents and deadline for applications for financing from the Fund and shall give preference to those applications proposing projects that are anticipated to produce the greatest reduction in energy consumption per Fund dollar invested, improve environmental performance, spur capital construction and facility modernization, encourage job retention and creation, and are likely to be substantially complete no later than 1 year following the issuance of financing from the Fund. In no event shall the Fund provide grant funding for more than 30 percent of the costs of any proposed project or support projects already receiving support from the Green Energy Fund under this chapter or the Strategic Fund under subchapter II of Chapter 87A of this title. The Fund shall be administered in consultation with the Sustainable Energy Utility and the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism. The Department shall make an annual report on the use of the Energy Efficiency Investment Fund and the value of energy savings resulting therefrom to the Governor's Energy Advisory Council and the General Assembly not later than August 30 of each year after 2011. The Department shall retain no more than 4 percent of the Fund for expenses to administer this
section. All terms used herein that are defined in Chapter 55 of Title 30 shall have the same definition used in that chapter.

§ 8053. State Energy Office; State Energy Coordinator; establishment; powers and duties.

(c) The State Energy Office shall:

(2) Coordinate with other state and federal agencies including, but not limited to, the Delaware Public Service Commission, the Office of State Planning and Coordination, the Office of Management and Budget, the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, the Delaware Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Agriculture in carrying out its duties under this subchapter;

§ 8054. Cabinet Committee on Energy.

(a) A Cabinet Committee on Energy is established and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Governor. It shall be comprised of the following members:

(1) The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control.
(2) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture.
(3) The Secretary of the Department of Transportation.
(4) The Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services.
(5) The Secretary of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security.
(6) The Secretary of the Department of State.
(7) The Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.
(8) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget.
(9) Such others as the Governor may designate.


(d) The Governor's Energy Advisory Council shall be composed of 17 members as follows:

(7) The Secretaries of Transportation, Natural Resources and Environmental Control and Agriculture and the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism shall serve as ex-officio members.


(a) The State Energy Office shall administer moneys in the Green Energy Fund, in consultation with other offices within Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism and the Division of the Public Advocate, through a program of environmental incentive grants and loans for the development, promotion and support of energy efficiency programs and renewable or alternative energy technology in the State.

§ 8404. Powers, duties and functions of the Secretary.

The Secretary shall have the following powers, duties and functions:

(4) To collect and analyze statistical and planning information on all modes of transportation and make studies required to carry out state transportation programs; to coordinate and develop, in cooperation with federal, state, county and local governmental agencies, comprehensive balanced transportation planning, programming and
policy for the movement of people and goods within the State; to prepare a statewide master transportation plan that is consistent with the state's social, economic and environmental needs and goals; and to develop a unified intermodal transportation planning program in cooperation with the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism and other planning agencies to fulfill the transportation planning requirements of the federal government;

§ 8525. Development of employment opportunities.

The Department of Labor and the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism shall be jointly responsible for developing new and improved employment opportunities and coordinating with all other state and local agencies and private organizations in this field. The Governor and the General Assembly shall be kept fully apprised by the Department of Labor and the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism of all state, local and private activities in the employment development field.

§ 8781. Creation of Diamond State Port Corporation.

(b) The Corporation shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of 15 members, all of whom shall be residents of this State. Eight of these directors shall be:

(i) The Secretary of State;
(ii) The Secretary of Transportation; and
(iii) The Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism;
(iv) The Secretary of Finance;
(v) The Controller General;
(vi) The Co-Chairs of the General Assembly's Joint Legislative Committee on the Capital Improvement Program or their designee or designees; and
(vii) The Secretary of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security.

§ 9101. Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues.

(a) A Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues is established and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Governor. It shall be comprised of the following members or their respective designees:

(1) The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control.
(2) The Secretary of the Department of Transportation.
(3) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture.
(4) The Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.
(5) The Director of the Delaware State Housing Authority.
(6) The Secretary of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security.
(7) Such others as the Governor may designate.

§ 9308. Authority of the agency; rules and regulations.

(c) If a project cannot proceed to actual construction because comparable replacement sale or rental housing is not available, the agency may enter into such agreements with the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism or take such other action as necessary or appropriate to provide such housing by use of funds authorized for such project.
(d) In order to encourage and facilitate the construction or rehabilitation of housing to meet the needs of displaced persons who are displaced from dwellings because of any project or program, the agency may enter into agreements with the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism or take such other actions as necessary or appropriate to utilize federal loans for planning and preliminary expenses for additional housing as provided under 42 U.S.C. § 4635.

§ 9404. Commission on State Surplus Real Property.

(a) A Commission on State Surplus Real Property is established and shall report in an advisory capacity to the Governor and to the General Assembly. It shall be comprised of the following members:

(1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives;
(2) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
(3) The Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism;
(4) The Secretary of the Department of Transportation;
(5) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

§ 10302. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) [Repealed.]
(2) "License" means the whole or part of any agency permit, license, certificate, approval, registration, charter or any form or permission required by law, including agency rule, to engage in any activity.
(3) "Master license" means the document designed for public display issued by the system which certifies individual state agency approval for licenses the State requires for any person subject to this chapter.
(4) [Repealed.]
(5) "System" means the business registration and licensing center established by this chapter.

§ 10303. [Repealed.]

§ 10403. Definitions [For application of this section, see 80 Del. Laws, c. 112, § 7; and 80 Del. Laws, c. 113, § 8]

As used in this chapter:

(3) "Executive branch agency" means, for purposes of this chapter only, the Department of Agriculture, Department of Correction, Delaware National Guard, Delaware State Housing Authority, Department of Education, Department of Finance, Department of Health and Social Services, Department of Labor, Office of Management and Budget, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, Department of Safety and Homeland Security, Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families, Department of State, Department of Technology and Information, and Department of Transportation.

Section 4. Amend Section 1404, Title 2 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 1404. Establishment of Transportation Trust Fund.

There is hereby established in the Authority a fund to be known as the "Transportation Trust Fund." Except as otherwise provided by contract between the Authority and the holders of bonds of the Authority and excluding
the receipts and revenues of subsidiary corporations of the Authority, all taxes, fees, charges, tolls, reimbursements and revenues collected or received by or paid or appropriated to the Authority and any amounts received from the Corps of Engineers in connection with the construction or reconstruction of a bridge in the area of the St. Georges Bridge shall be credited to the Transportation Trust Fund. In addition, the proceeds of bonds issued by the Authority and supported by a pledge or other interest in the money in the Transportation Trust Fund shall be held in or for the Transportation Trust Fund. The Transportation Trust Fund shall be deemed to be a special fund. There may be established in the Transportation Trust Fund 1 or more accounts to which shall be credited and from which there shall be paid the taxes, fees, charges, tolls and revenues credited to the Transportation Trust Fund. The Authority may transfer money from the Transportation Trust Fund to a special fund of the State to meet obligations of the State payable from the Transportation Trust Fund. No such money credited to the Transportation Trust Fund, or any account in the Transportation Trust Fund, shall be available to pay any bonds issued by the Authority pursuant to any trust agreement or other contract entered into by the Authority prior to the creation of the Transportation Trust Fund unless the Authority specifically agrees to the contrary after the adoption of this chapter. Nothing in this chapter shall adversely affect the security of any bonds issued by the Authority pursuant to a trust agreement dated as of September 1, 1979, as amended, between the Authority and the trustee for holders of bonds secured thereunder or pursuant to a trust agreement dated as of September 1, 1981, as amended, between the Authority and the trustee for holders of bonds secured thereunder. Notwithstanding other provisions of the Delaware Code, transfers from the Transportation Trust Fund to other public agencies for projects approved in the annual Capital Improvements Act shall not require the approval of the Budget Commission or be subject to Chapter 69 of Title 29. Projects for which Transportation Trust Fund appropriations are provided in the Suburban Street, Drainage and Miscellaneous funding category in the annual Capital Improvements Act shall, whenever the prevailing wage provisions of § 6960 of Title 29 would otherwise be applicable, be subject to the "highway construction" rate developed through the regulatory process implementing § 6960 of Title 29.

Subject to appropriations in the annual Capital Improvements Acts, the Department shall create a special account in the Fund for the purposes of capitalizing the Small Retail Gasoline Station Assistance Loan Fund ("Small Station Fund") established in Chapter 74 of Title 7. This special account shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The total authorization in any fiscal year for this Small Station Fund shall not exceed $4 million, including administrative expenses;
2. The total authorization of moneys for the Small Station Fund shall not exceed $12 million;
3. All loan repayments under this program shall immediately upon receipt be deposited into accounts of the Transportation Trust Fund; and
4. A memorandum of understanding shall be executed between the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, which shall include by way of illustration and not limitation, the following:
a. An agreement as to eligibility requirements;
b. A cap on administrative expenses;
c. Provisions for auditing the Small Station Fund Program; and
d. A requirement for a Quarterly Activity Report on the administration of the Small Station Fund Program, showing the loans made, amounts repaid and an itemization of administrative expenses.

Section 5. Amend Section 605, Title 3 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 605. Delaware Viticulture Council.

A Delaware Viticulture Council is hereby created for the purposes of assisting the Department with the enhancement and promotion of viticulture activities and operations within the State. Duties of the Council shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Examine the impact of laws and regulations on the viticulture industry and recommend to the Secretary methods to simplify regulatory processes or otherwise enhance the regulatory climate with respect to the efficient siting and operation of viticulture operations;

(2) Examine the viticulture incentive programs used by other states, determine those programs used, determine programs that would best enhance viticulture operations and report to the Secretary on what actions are required to address these needs;

(3) Examine research and educational needs as they relate to the improvement of management and operations of viticulture operations and report to the Secretary on what actions are required to address these needs;

(4) Respond to requests of the Secretary to examine other issues relating to the enhancement of viticulture activities and operations in Delaware.

The Council shall be composed of no less than 12 members. Members shall include:

(1) The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control or the Secretary's designee;

(2) The Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism or the Director's designee;

The Secretary shall act as chairperson of the Council, or may appoint a designee.

Section 6. Amend Section 7006, Title 7 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 7006. State Coastal Zone Industrial Control Board created; composition; conflict of interest; quorum.

There is hereby created a State Coastal Zone Industrial Control Board, which shall have 9 voting members. Five of these shall be regular members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. No more than 2 of the regular members shall be affiliated with the same political party. At least 1 regular member shall be a resident of New Castle County, 1 a resident of Kent County and 1 a resident of Sussex County, provided that no more than 2 residents of any county shall serve on the Board at the same time. The additional 4 members shall be the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, and the chairpersons of the planning commissions of each county, who shall be ex officio voting members. The term of 1 appointed regular member shall be for 1 year; 1 for 2 years; 1 for 3 years; 1 for 4 years; and the chairperson, to be designated as such by the Governor, and serve at the Governor's pleasure. Thereafter, all regular members shall be appointed for 5-year terms. The members shall
receive no compensation except for expenses. Any member of the Board with a conflict of interest in a matter in question shall disqualify himself or herself from consideration of that matter. A majority of the total membership of the Board less those disqualifying themselves shall constitute a quorum. A majority of the total membership of the Board shall be necessary to make a final decision on a permit request.

Section 7. Amend Section 7423, Title 7 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 7423. Small Station Fund eligibility.

(a) Any applicant for a Small Station Fund loan must demonstrate that the applicant meets the following criteria:

(6) The loan for the project to be provided to the small station by the Small Station Fund shall be approved by the Secretary of the Department, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, and the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.

(b) Before making any loan from the Small Station Fund, the Department, in coordination with the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism and the Department of Transportation, shall specify:

Section 8. Amend Section 7505, Title 7 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 7505. Delaware Open Space Council.

(b) The Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture and State, the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, and the State Liaison Officer for the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, or designees appointed by the respective Secretary, Director, or Officer, who shall be ex officio advisors to the Council without voting powers.

Section 9. Amend Section 7712, Title 7 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 7712. Information program.

(a) The Department, assisted by the Division of Public Health of the Department of Health and Social Services, the Department of Safety and Homeland Security and the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, shall prepare and implement an information program designed to inform the general public, local public officials and the business community about the requirements of this chapter and regulations adopted thereto, about the health risks of accidental releases of extremely hazardous substances and about means available to minimize the chances of accidental catastrophic releases of such substances.

Section 10. Amend Section 7804, Title 7 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 7804. Pollution Prevention Program.

(a) The Department shall establish the Implementation Committee and appoint the members thereof.

(1) The Implementation Committee shall be composed of, but not be limited to, the following individuals or their designee:

b. The Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism;

The Implementation Committee will be chaired by the Secretary of the Department and be staffed by the Department. The members of the Implementation Committee are appointed for a period of 1 1/2 years and shall meet at least monthly during this period.
(b) (2) These objectives shall be accomplished through implementation of, but not be limited to, the programs outlined in this section.

   a. Technical assistance:

      2. An information clearinghouse shall be established and located at the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism. The clearinghouse will contain a database of pollution prevention technologies and case studies of technology applications.

Section 11. Amend Section 2656, Title 9 of the Delaware Code as follows:
§ 2656. Required and optional elements of comprehensive plan; studies and surveys.
(g) The comprehensive plan shall include:

   (10) An economic development element setting forth principles and guidelines for the commercial and industrial development, if any, and the employment and personnel utilization within the area. The element may detail the type of commercial and industrial development sought while correlating the present and projected employment needs of the area to other elements of the plan and may set forth methods by which a balanced and stable economic base will be pursued. The economic development element shall include a general area redevelopment component consisting of plans, criteria and programs for community redevelopment, including reuse of housing sites, business sites, industrial sites, central business districts, public building sites, recreational facilities and other locations. The economic development element shall be developed in consultation with and reviewed by the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.

Section 12. Amend Section 4956, Title 9 of the Delaware Code as follows:
§ 4956. Required and optional elements of comprehensive plan; studies and surveys.
(g) The comprehensive plan shall include:

   (10) An economic development element setting forth principles and guidelines for the commercial and industrial development, if any, and the employment and personnel utilization within the area. The element may detail the type of commercial and industrial development sought while correlating the present and projected employment needs of the area to other elements of the plan and may set forth methods by which a balanced and stable economic base will be pursued. The economic development element shall include a general area redevelopment component consisting of plans, criteria and programs for community redevelopment, including reuse of housing sites, business sites, industrial sites, central business districts, public building sites, recreational facilities and other locations. The economic development element shall be developed in consultation with and reviewed by the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.

Section 13. Amend Section 6956, Title 9 of the Delaware Code as follows:
§ 6956. Required and optional elements of comprehensive plan; studies and surveys.
(g) The comprehensive plan shall include:
An economic development element setting forth principles and guidelines for the commercial and industrial development, if any, and the employment and personnel utilization within the area. The element may detail the type of commercial and industrial development sought while correlating the present and projected employment needs of the area to other elements of the plan and may set forth methods by which a balanced and stable economic base will be pursued. The economic development element shall include a general area redevelopment component consisting of plans, criteria and programs for community redevelopment, including reuse of housing sites, business sites, industrial sites, central business districts, public building sites, recreational facilities and other locations. The economic development element shall be developed in consultation with and reviewed by the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism.

Section 14. Amend Section 137, Title 17 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 137. Acquisition and sale of real property.

(a) (2) The acquisition of real property by the Department after approval of the preferred alternative for new corridors or expansion of existing corridors by the Council on Transportation, or as a part of the Department's Corridor Capacity Preservation Program, shall be reviewed by a committee consisting of the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, the Governor's Chief of Staff, a member of the Senate designated by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, a member of the House of Representatives designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a member of the public designated by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and a member of the public designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to determine the consistency of such action with the State's overall goals for land use planning. If it determines that the acquisition will be inconsistent with State planning goals, the committee may disapprove the acquisition.

Section 15. Amend Section 193, Title 17 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 193. Delaware Byway Advisory Board.

The Secretary shall appoint a Delaware Byway Advisory Board consisting of public and private parties, including not-for-profit organizations, to assist in and make recommendations regarding in the designation, development, operation, management and promotion of Delaware byways. Members of the Advisory Board created pursuant to this section shall include, but not be limited to, the Secretaries, chief administrative officers or representatives of the:

(1) Department of State;
(2) Department of Agriculture;
(3) Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism;
(4) Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control; and
(5) Such other public or private members as the Secretary may determine would be of assistance in this process.
These members would include, but not be limited to, representatives from: federal, state and local governments; environmental groups; planning agencies; the real estate and outdoor advertising industries; business, farming and nature organizations; and such other groups which may be affected by a byway designation.

Section 16. Amend Section 1723, Title 17 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 1723. Proposals for commerce facilities or developments.

The Delaware River and Bay Authority shall not initiate any commerce facility or development (as defined in Article II of the Delaware-New Jersey Compact set out in § 1701 of this title) to be located in the State unless a proposal for such commerce facility or development has been first submitted to the Governor by the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism and then approved and submitted to the Authority by the Governor. The Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism shall, before submitting such proposal to the Governor, notify all members of the General Assembly and the local governmental officials of the area in which the proposed project is to be located.

Section 17. Amend Section 3402, Title 19 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 3402. Disbursement of special assessment funds.

(b) All moneys collected under this chapter shall, in a timely manner after deposit pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, be deposited to the following special funds in the following amounts and for the following purposes:

(1) Ten percent of the total amount collected retained by the Division of Unemployment Insurance for costs associated with the collection of the tax.

(2)a. Twenty-five percent of the funds that remain after the cost of collecting the tax has been deducted to a special fund of the State to be administered by the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism to be awarded to appropriate subgrantees for industrial training for economic development in accordance with subchapter VIII of Chapter 87A of Title 29.

b. Of this 25 percent sum, not more than $100,000 shall be allocated for subgrants to fund career training for state employees. Appropriate regulations for the granting of these funds shall be developed by the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, in cooperation with the Office of Management and Budget and a representative of a public employees' union representing state employees.

c. Of this same 25 percent sum, no more than 10 percent may be retained by the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism for the payment of administrative costs.

Section 18. Amend Section 352, Title 26 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 352. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(16) "Qualified fuel cell provider" means an entity that

a. By no later than the commencement date of commercial operation of the full nameplate capacity of a fuel cell project, manufactures fuel cells in Delaware that are capable of being powered by renewable fuels, and
b. Prior to approval of required tariff provisions, is designated by the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism and the Secretary of DNREC as an economic development opportunity.

Section 19. Amend Title 30 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 1116. Delaware investment credit.

A resident and nonresident individual shall be allowed a credit against that individual's tax otherwise due under this chapter in an amount equal to 15% of the individual's investment that is qualified under subchapter X of Chapter 87A of Title 29 ("The Delaware Investment Tax Credit Program") and certified as such by the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism to the Director of Revenue. Notwithstanding § 329 of this title to the contrary, determinations by the Delaware Economic Development Authority as to the qualification of any investment under the Delaware Investment Tax Credit Program shall not be appealable to the Tax Appeal Board. In no event shall the credit allowable under this section exceed the tax otherwise due under this chapter. Unused credits under this section may be carried forward 4 years from the tax year in which they are certified under the Delaware Investment Tax Credit Program.


As used in this subchapter:

(3) "Targeted area" is:

e. When socio-economic data becomes available from the 2000 Census, the Director of the Delaware Economic Development Office in conjunction with the Secretary of Finance shall evaluate all census tracts using the following criteria: Percent of persons below poverty level; percent of households receiving public assistance; unemployment rate; median household income; a significant presence of vacant property within the target area; the character of the community; and population. Based on these criteria census tracts shall be reallocated on the following basis: Ten in the City of Wilmington; 10 in New Castle County outside of the City of Wilmington; 5 in Kent County; and 5 in Sussex County. The provisions of this sub-subdivision shall supersede paragraph (1)d. of this section upon the reallocation of the census tracts. Upon request, the Director of the Delaware Economic Development Office, in conjunction with the Secretary of Finance, may consider extending the geographic boundary lines of the target area where the adjacent community otherwise satisfies the above-referenced criteria.

§ 2081. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(9) "Director" means the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism as defined in § 8702A of Title 29.

§ 2091. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(7) "Director" means the Director of the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, as defined by § 8702A of Title 29.
(8) “Division” means the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism within the Department of State.

(10) “New business certification date” means the date the Division officially certifies the joint application of the sponsor firm and the new business firm.

§ 2092. Business finder's fee credit.

(b) The Division shall develop rules and regulations consistent with this subchapter to implement the provisions herein.

§ 2093. New business certification process.

(a) To qualify for a business finder's fee credit, a proposed sponsor firm and proposed new business firm shall submit a joint application to the Division, which shall consider whether the application meets the following criteria:

(b) The Division shall review the joint application, and the Director shall, within the exercise of the Director's discretion, certify those applications that meet the standards of subsection (a) of this section.

§ 2094. Tax credit application process.

(a) In order to obtain a credit, certified sponsor firms and certified new business firms shall submit a joint tax credit application to the Division for the business finder's fee tax credit on or after the anniversary of the new business certification date, which certifies the number of full-time Delaware employees that have been continuously employed by the new business firm for a period of at least 3 months prior to the date of the tax credit application.

(c) The Division shall review and conduct due diligence to verify the employment as reported in the credit application. After such review the Director shall, within the exercise of the Director's discretion, approve qualifying applications for a credit of $500 for each full-time Delaware employee of the certified new business firm. The Director shall submit a written authorization for each such approved application to the certified sponsor firm, certified new business firm, the Division of Revenue, and, if applicable, the Bank Commissioner and the Insurance Commissioner, indicating the amount of business finder's fee tax credit approved for each certified sponsor firm and certified new business firm.

§ 2095. Reports.

The Division shall report annually to the General Assembly, on or before March 1, the names of all certified sponsor and new business firms, the total amount of tax credits awarded pursuant to this Program, and the number of jobs created.

§ 2097. Limitations on credits.

(b) The Director shall ensure that each application has the date and time of submission recorded. Credits will be awarded in chronological order based upon the date and time upon which each complete application is received by the Division. If a credit award results in exceeding the $3,000,000 limitation for the fiscal year in which it is awarded, the amount by which such credit award exceeds $3,000,000 shall carry over to the succeeding fiscal year and shall receive priority for that year.

§ 20A-100. Declaration of purpose.
The purpose of this chapter shall be to provide Delaware's employers with an incentive to hire veterans who have served in overseas conflicts since 2001. Upon their return home, these veterans face a difficult job market and have experienced relatively high rates of unemployment. The tax credit created by this chapter is designed to work in conjunction with the combined efforts of the Departments of Labor and Finance, the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, and veterans' organizations throughout the State to develop and implement comprehensive and coordinated measures designed to assist these veterans as they transition to civilian life.

§ 6123. Period to establish.

During the period required for Kent and Sussex Counties to establish their county-based Convention & Visitors Bureaus, funds due them shall be paid to the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism. The Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism will administer the funds, making them available to nonprofit organizations in each county in such amounts and for such tourism related purposes as the Delaware Tourism Office deems appropriate.

Section 20. Amend Section 1502, Title 31 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 1502. Establishment of program.

(a) The Delaware Welfare Employment Program (the "Program") is created within the Department of Health and Social Services (the "Department") as a critical component of the State's welfare-to-work strategy; provided, however, that the Program shall, as with the State's other welfare-to-work strategies, be administered by the Department in cooperation with the Department of Labor, the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism and the Delaware Work Force Development Council (hereinafter the "Cooperating Agencies"). To the extent necessary to enable the Department to make use of the Program for appropriate cases, the Department shall amend the State plans for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children ("AFDC") program and the jobs and basic skills ("JOBS") program and shall seek federal approval for plan amendments and any waivers from federal law. The Department shall implement the Program with maximum federal financial participation.

Section 21. Amend Section 1924, Title 22 of the Delaware Code as follows:

§ 1924. Administration.

(c) DSHA may delegate to, and receive assistance from, other entities including the Office, the Division of Small Business, Development and Tourism, and other state agencies in carrying out its responsibilities hereunder.

Section 22. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application; and, to that end, the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.

If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, unenforceable, or unconstitutional, the remainder of such provisions, and the application of such provisions to any person or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected.

Section 23. The effective date of this Act is July 1, 2017.

Approved June 30, 2017