



Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee

Senator Gene Yaw
Chairman

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Summary Senate Bill 164, P.N. 114

Prime Sponsor: Senator Yudichak

Overview

- Amends the Administrative Code of 1929, further providing for responsibilities of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- Requires DEP to appoint a counsel to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB), who shall also serve as independent counsel to members of the EQB. Independent counsel shall be compensated out of the DEP general government operations appropriation.
- The independent counsel shall assist EQB members on all matters before the Board, including:
 - Review of rulemaking petitions
 - Drafting and development of amendments to proposed and final rulemakings
 - Procedural matters
- All communication between the independent counsel and the Board or Board member shall be considered privileged and confidential. Such privilege may only be waived by the board.

Effective Date

- Effective immediately.