

Economic Promotion Act (SRSZ 311.100)¹

(of 27 November 1986)²

The Cantonal Assembly of Canton Schwyz,

having examined a bill presented by the Executive Council, upon the motion of a special commission,

resolves:

§ 1³ Principles

¹ The Canton seeks to establish favourable economic conditions and shall take part in measures which serve to promote a diverse economic structure and the regionally balanced development of its economy.

² Economic promotion measures shall only be taken if the means of private initiatives do not suffice and not enough statutory or other assistance is available.

³ The entrepreneurial freedom to make decisions must be respected, distortions of competition must be avoided, and the natural foundations of economic life must be protected.

§ 2⁴ Goals

¹ The economic promotion measures pursue the goals of:

- a) facilitating the development of existing enterprises and attracting new enterprises in order to preserve existing employment and training positions and to create additional ones;
- b) strengthening innovation and added value within the regions and improving their competitiveness;
- c) promoting the profile of the benefits of Canton Schwyz as an area for business activity and tourism.

² Priority must be given to measures benefiting economically disadvantaged areas.

§ 3⁵ Economic promotion measures

¹ Within the framework of its budget, the Canton may provide services in the form of subsidies and reduced interest rates for the purpose of:

- a) promoting the Canton as a business and tourism location;
- b) participating in organisations and projects whose primary purpose is economic promotion, technology transfer or applied research and development;
- c) major events of national or international importance;
- d) acquiring real estate by the municipalities for commercial, industrial and service purposes;
- e) reducing the cost of developing real estate by the municipalities for commercial, industrial and service purposes;
- f) taking up federal grants which serve to improve the structure of enterprises and regional or economic upturn.

² The Canton co-ordinates the economic promotion of the districts and municipalities, in particular in the fields of information provision, establishing contacts and offering good services.

§ 3a⁶ Regional policy measures

¹ Within the framework of the available resources, the Canton shall decide whether to grant financial support or loans pursuant to the Federal Swiss Regional Policy Act [Bundesgesetz über Regionalpolitik] (Art. 15 Para. 3).

² Within the framework of the budget, the Canton may participate in the financing of measures (Art. 7 Para. 2 Letter b and 16 Para. 2 of the Federal Swiss Regional Policy Act) and may provide financial support for development agencies (Art. 5 of the Federal Swiss Regional Policy Act).

§ 4⁷ Provision of support

¹ There is no legal entitlement to cantonal support pursuant to §§ 3 and 3a.

² Conditions may be attached to such support, specifically in order to prevent speculation.

³ Support provided to the municipalities pursuant to § 3 Para. 1 Letter d and e shall be conditional upon an application stating grounds and the participation of the local municipality in accordance with its interests and financial means.

§ 5⁸ Responsibilities

¹ The Executive Council is responsible for:

a) signing programme agreements with the Federal Government (Art. 16 Para. 2 of the Federal Swiss Regional Policy Act);

b) concluding benefit agreements with regional development agencies (Art. 5 and 15 Para. 2 of the Federal Swiss Regional Policy Act);

c) establishing further responsibilities, specifically in respect of undertakings to provide benefits pursuant to §§ 3 and 3a.

² The municipal assembly is responsible for determining measures pursuant to § 3 Para. 1 Letters d and e. It may assign these powers in general or on a case-by-case basis to the municipal council, and may authorise this to allocate real estate to interested parties for commercial, industrial and service purposes in accordance with specific conditions.

§ 6⁹ Economic Council

The Executive Council shall appoint a specialist commission which it shall consult in conjunction with questions of economic, structural and regional policy.

§ 7¹⁰ Final provisions

a) Conformity with federal law

The Cantonal Assembly is empowered to amend this Act, subject to the optional referendum, in accordance with changes to federal law.

§ 8 b) Commencement

¹ This Act shall be decided upon in a referendum.

² It shall be published in the Official Gazette and, once approved, shall be included in the statute books.

³ The Executive Council shall determine when this shall enter into force.¹¹

¹ GS 17-657 with amendments of 13 March 2002 (GS 20-244) and of 17 December 2007 (GS 21-161).

² Approved by the referendum of 21 June 1987 with 7,781 votes in favour and 5,700 votes against (Official Gazette 1987 604) and amended on 13 March 2002 on 2 June 2002 with 26,520 votes in favour and 8,993 votes against (Official Gazette 2002 917).

³ Heading in the version of 17 December 2007.

⁴ Heading and Para. 1 Letter b in the version of 17 December 2007.

⁵ Heading and Para. 1 Letter a, b, c and f in the version of 17 December 2007. Para. 1 Letters g and h as well as Para. 2 abrogated on 17 December 2007; previous Para. 3 made Para. 2.

⁶ Newly added on 17 December 2007.

⁷ Heading, Para. 1 and 2 in the version of 17 December 2007.

⁸ Version of 17 December 2007.

⁹ Heading in the version of 17 December 2007.

¹⁰ Heading in the version of 17 December 2007.

¹¹ 1 January 1988 (GS 17-659); amendments of 13 March 2002 on 1 July 2002 (Official Gazette 2002 1090) and of 17 December 2007 on 1 January 2008 (Official Gazette 2008 419).