THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1588 Session of 1995

INTRODUCED BY HANNA, KUKOVICH, LYNCH, BELARDI, ROONEY, BARLEY, BELFANTI, ARMSTRONG, VAN HORNE, PISTELLA AND TRELLO, MAY 9, 1995

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, MAY 9, 1995

AN ACT

- 1 Amending Title 66 (Public Utilities) of the Pennsylvania
- 2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for duty of owner of
- 3 rental property.
- 4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 5 hereby enacts as follows:
- 6 Section 1. Section 1529.1 of Title 66 of the Pennsylvania
- 7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:
- 8 § 1529.1. Duty of owners of rental property.
- 9 (a) Notice to public utility.--It is the duty of every owner
- 10 of a residential building or mobile home park which [contains]
- 11 <u>is known to contain</u> one or more dwelling units, not individually
- 12 metered, to notify each public utility from whom utility service
- 13 is received of their ownership and the fact that the premises
- 14 served are used for rental purposes.
- 15 (b) History of account. -- Upon receipt of the notice provided
- 16 in this section, if the mobile home park or residential building
- 17 contains one or more dwelling units not individually metered, an
- 18 affected public utility shall forthwith list the account for the

- 1 premises in question in the name of the owner, and the owner
- 2 shall thereafter be responsible for the payment for the utility
- 3 services rendered thereunto. In the case of individually metered
- 4 dwelling units, unless notified to the contrary by the tenant or
- 5 an authorized representative, an affected public utility shall
- 6 list the account for the premises in question in the name of the
- 7 owner, and the owner shall be responsible for the payment for
- 8 utility services to the premises.
- 9 (c) Failure to give notice. -- Any owner of a residential
- 10 building or mobile home park failing to notify affected public
- 11 utilities as required by this section shall nonetheless be
- 12 responsible for payment of the utility services as if the
- 13 required notice had been given[.] <u>unless it is demonstrated that</u>
- 14 the owner was unaware that the residential units were not
- 15 <u>individually metered and that he did not cause this circumstance</u>
- 16 <u>through his own actions</u>.
- 17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.