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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 281 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY BAKER, ARGALL, FOLMER, VOGEL, TEPLITZ, SCHWANK,  
EICHELBERGER, BREWSTER, RAFFERTY, AUMENT AND STEFANO,  
JANUARY 16, 2015

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REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 16, 2015

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of September 30, 1983 (P.L.160, No.39),  
2 entitled "An act establishing salaries and compensation of  
3 certain public officials including justices and judges of  
4 Statewide courts, judges of courts of common pleas, judges of  
5 the Philadelphia Municipal Court, judges of the Philadelphia  
6 Traffic Court, district justices and the Governor, the  
7 Lieutenant Governor, the State Treasurer, the Auditor  
8 General, the Attorney General and certain other State  
9 officers and the salary and certain expenses of the members  
10 of the General Assembly; and repealing certain inconsistent  
11 acts," further providing for members of the General Assembly.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. Section 4(d) and (d.1) of the act of September  
15 30, 1983 (P.L.160, No.39), known as the Public Official  
16 Compensation Law, reenacted November 16, 2005 (P.L.385, No.72),  
17 are amended to read:

18 Section 4. Members of the General Assembly.

19 \* \* \*

20 (d) Subsequent annual cost-of-living adjustment for  
21 members.--

22 (1) For the 12-month period beginning December 1, 1997,

1 through November 30, 1998, and for each like 12-month period  
2 thereafter, the salary of the members of the General Assembly  
3 shall be increased by an annual cost-of-living adjustment  
4 calculated by applying the percentage change in the Consumer  
5 Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the  
6 Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland area, for the  
7 most recent 12-month period for which figures have been  
8 officially reported by the United States Department of Labor,  
9 Bureau of Labor Statistics immediately prior to the date the  
10 adjustment is due to take effect, to the then current salary  
11 amounts. The percentage increase and the new salary amounts  
12 shall be determined jointly by the Chief Clerk of the Senate  
13 and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives prior to  
14 the annual effective date of the adjustment and shall be  
15 published by them in the Pennsylvania Bulletin within ten  
16 days of the date such determination is made.

17 (2) A member of the General Assembly may elect to reject  
18 receipt of the annual cost-of-living adjustment under this  
19 subsection if the member notifies in writing the Chief Clerk  
20 of the Senate or the Chief Clerk of the House of  
21 Representatives, as applicable, no later than 10 days prior  
22 to the annual effective date of the adjustment. An election  
23 by a member of the General Assembly to reject receipt of the  
24 adjustment shall be irrevocable during the member's term of  
25 office.

26 (d.1) Subsequent annual cost-of-living adjustment for  
27 officers and leaders.--

28 (1) For the 12-month period beginning December 1, 1997,  
29 through November 30, 1998, and for each like 12-month period  
30 thereafter, the additional compensation of the officers and

1 leaders of the General Assembly shall be increased by an  
2 annual cost-of-living adjustment calculated by applying the  
3 percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban  
4 Consumers (CPI-U) for the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware  
5 and Maryland area, for the most recent 12-month period for  
6 which figures have been officially reported by the United  
7 States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics  
8 immediately prior to the date the adjustment is due to take  
9 effect, to the then current compensation. The percentage  
10 increase and the new compensation amounts shall be determined  
11 jointly by the Chief Clerk of the Senate and the Chief Clerk  
12 of the House of Representatives prior to the annual effective  
13 date of the adjustment and shall be published in the  
14 Pennsylvania Bulletin within 20 days immediately prior to  
15 each cost-of-living increase taking effect.

16 (2) An officer or leader of the General Assembly may  
17 elect to reject receipt of the annual cost-of-living  
18 adjustment under this subsection if the officer or leader  
19 notifies in writing the Chief Clerk of the Senate or the  
20 Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, as applicable,  
21 no later than 10 days prior to the annual effective date of  
22 the adjustment. An election by an officer or leader of the  
23 General Assembly to reject receipt of the adjustment shall be  
24 irrevocable during the officer's or leader's term of office  
25 as a member of the General Assembly.

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.