

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 970

Session of
1975

INTRODUCED BY A. K. HUTCHINSON (BY REQUEST), APRIL 9, 1975

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR RELATIONS, APRIL 14, 1975

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
17 and commissions; and prescribing the manner in which the
18 number and compensation of the deputies and all other
19 assistants and employes of certain departments, boards and
20 commissions shall be determined," providing for a fire and
21 life safety commissioner as a deputy secretary in the
22 Department of Labor and Industry; prescribing his powers and
23 duties; and making an appropriation.

24 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
25 hereby enacts as follows:

26 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
27 as "The Administrative Code of 1929," is amended by adding a
28 section to read:

29 Section 2215. Fire and Life Safety.--(a) The Secretary of

1 Labor and Industry shall appoint, with the approval of the
2 Governor, a deputy secretary who shall have the title of Fire
3 and Life Safety Commissioner and shall provide him with
4 sufficient personnel and materials to enable him to exercise his
5 powers and duties including personnel qualified in the arts of
6 fire suppression and fire and life safety. All positions under
7 the commissioner shall be deemed to be included in the list of
8 positions set forth in clause (d) of section 3 of the act of
9 August 5, 1941 (P.L.752, No.286), known as the "Civil Service
10 Act," and the provisions and benefits of that act shall be
11 applicable to the employees of, and positions in, the office of
12 the commissioner.

13 (b) The commissioner shall adopt and enforce a fire safety
14 and fire life safety code and shall adopt regulations
15 establishing minimum standards for fire suppression, for fire
16 prevention and for the protection of life and property against
17 fire and panic caused by fire. A political subdivision may
18 establish and enforce additional and more stringent requirements
19 than those adopted by the commissioner.

20 (c) The commissioner shall have the additional power, and
21 his duty shall be:

22 (1) To adopt and regulate educational fire safety programs
23 for the public generally and for the public and private school
24 systems through the twelfth grade of education.

25 (2) To establish a system of Statewide inspections for fire
26 hazards, training and utilizing the various fire departments for
27 such inspections.

28 (3) To develop and regulate a Statewide training program for
29 fire department personnel.

30 (4) To adopt and regulate standards of fire department

1 equipment.

2 (5) To establish programs of regional fire protection.

3 (6) To be responsible for the collection and interpretation
4 of fire statistical data.

5 (7) To identify and make public the location of hospitals
6 within this Commonwealth that are equipped and staffed to offer
7 specialized treatment for burn cases.

8 (8) To exercise such additional powers as shall be necessary
9 to carry the provisions of this section.

10 Section 2. The sum of \$2,100,000 or as much thereof as may
11 be necessary, is hereby specifically appropriated to the
12 Department of Labor and Industry for the fiscal year July 1,
13 1974 to June 30, 1975 to carry out the provisions of this act.

14 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.