

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 982

Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY BURNS, J. L. WRIGHT JR., WILSON, WEIDNER AND
MILLIRON, APRIL 26, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 26, 1977

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 26, 1975 (P.L.438, No.124),
2 entitled "An act establishing child protective services;
3 providing procedures for reporting and investigating the
4 abuse of children; establishing and providing access to a
5 Statewide central register on child abuse; investigating such
6 reports; providing for taking protective action including
7 taking a child into protective custody; placing duties on the
8 Department of Public Welfare and county child welfare
9 agencies; establishing child protective services in each
10 county child welfare agency; and providing penalties,"
11 providing for disclosure of records where prosecution
12 initiated.

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

15 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 15, act of November 26,
16 1975 (P.L.438, No.124), known as the "Child Protective Services
17 Law," is amended by adding a clause to read:

18 Section 15. Confidentiality of Records.--(a) Except as
19 provided in section 14, reports made pursuant to this act
20 including but not limited to report summaries of child abuse
21 made pursuant to section 6(b) and written reports made pursuant
22 to section 6(c) as well as any other information obtained,
23 reports written or photographs or x-rays taken concerning

1 alleged instances of child abuse in the possession of the
2 department, a county public child welfare agency or a child
3 protective service shall be confidential and shall only be made
4 available to:

5 * * *

6 (6) The district attorney or an authorized member of his
7 staff where a prosecution proceeding has been initiated.

8 * * *

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.