
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 1396 Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY CIMINI AND REED, JUNE 23, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 23, 1977

AN ACT

1 Requiring criminal trials to commence within 180 days from the
2 date of arrest.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. (a) Trial in a court case in which the defendant
6 is arrested after September 1, 1977, shall commence no later
7 than 180 days from the date on which the arrest of the defendant
8 took place.

9 (b) For the purpose of this act, trial shall be deemed to
10 commence on the date the trial judge calls the case to trial.

11 (c) At any time before trial, the defendant or his attorney
12 may apply to the court for an order dismissing the charges with
13 prejudice on the ground that this act has been violated. A copy
14 of such application shall be served upon the attorney for the
15 Commonwealth, who shall have the right to be heard thereon. Any
16 order granting such application shall dismiss the charges with
17 prejudice and discharge the defendant.

18 (d) Nothing in this act shall be construed to modify any

1 time limit contained in any statute of limitations.

2 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.