
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 1549 Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY MEBUS, JULY 28, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JULY 28, 1977

AN ACT

1 Reenacting and amending the act of May 1, 1913 (P.L.146, No.97),
2 entitled "An act enabling a married woman, who has been
3 deserted, abandoned, or driven from her home by her husband,
4 to sue her husband, upon any cause of action whatsoever; and
5 making such wife a competent witness against the husband in
6 such case," making the same applicable to all spouses.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. The title and section 1, act of May 1, 1913
10 (P.L.146, No.97), entitled "An act enabling a married woman, who
11 has been deserted, abandoned, or driven from her home by her
12 husband, to sue her husband, upon any cause of action
13 whatsoever; and making such wife a competent witness against the
14 husband in such case," are reenacted and amended to read:

15 AN ACT

16 Enabling a [married woman,] spouse, who has been deserted,
17 abandoned, or driven from [her] home by [her husband,] the
18 other spouse, to sue [her husband,] the other spouse, upon
19 any cause of action whatsoever; and making such [wife] spouse
20 a competent witness against the [husband] other spouse in

1 such case.

2 Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That from and after the
3 passage of this act, any [wife,] spouse, who has been deserted,
4 abandoned, or driven from [her] home by [her husband,] the other
5 spouse, may sue [her husband] the other spouse civilly, in any
6 court of this Commonwealth having the jurisdiction, upon any
7 cause of action now existing or hereafter accruing, [with like
8 effect as if such wife were a feme sole;] and in such case the
9 [wife] plaintiff spouse shall be a competent witness against the
10 [husband:] other spouse: Provided, however, That nothing in this
11 act contained shall be deemed to destroy the right of
12 survivorship in any land heretofore or hereafter conveyed to
13 such wife and husband jointly.

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.