

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 1972 Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY REED, DECEMBER 13, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, DECEMBER 13, 1977

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of August 5, 1941 (P.L.752, No.286), entitled
2 "An act regulating and improving the civil service of certain
3 departments and agencies of the Commonwealth; vesting in the
4 State Civil Service Commission and a Personnel Director
5 certain powers and duties; providing for classification of
6 positions, adoption of compensation schedules and
7 certification of payrolls; imposing duties upon certain
8 officers and employees of the Commonwealth; authorizing
9 service to other State departments or agencies and political
10 subdivisions of the Commonwealth in matters relating to civil
11 service; defining certain crimes and misdemeanors; imposing
12 penalties; making certain appropriations, and repealing
13 certain acts and parts thereof," authorizing civil service
14 employees to hold noncompensated elective or appointed
15 positions of political subdivisions.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
17 hereby enacts as follows:

18 Section 1. Section 904, act of August 5, 1941 (P.L.752,
19 No.286), known as the "Civil Service Act," amended August 27,
20 1963 (P.L.1257, No.520), is amended to read:

21 Section 904. Prohibition of Political Activity.--No person
22 in the classified service shall be a member of or delegate or
23 alternate to any political convention, nor shall he participate
24 at any such convention, except in the performance of his
25 official duty or as a visitor, nor shall he serve as a member of

1 any committee of any political party, or take an active part in
2 political management or in political campaigns, or use his
3 office or position to influence political movements or to
4 influence the political action of any officer or employe in the
5 classified service, nor shall he circulate or seek signatures to
6 any nominations or other petition required by any primary or
7 election law, nor shall he seek or accept election, nomination
8 or appointment as an office of a political club or organization,
9 or serve as a member of a committee of any such club or
10 organization, nor shall he in any manner participate in or
11 interfere with the conduct of any election or the preparation
12 therefor at the polling place or with the election officers
13 while counting the votes or returning the election material to
14 the place provided by law for that purpose, save only for the
15 purpose of making and depositing his own ballot as speedily as
16 it reasonably can be done, nor shall he be within the polling
17 place or within fifty feet thereof except for the purpose of
18 carrying out official duties and of ordinary travel or residence
19 during the period of time beginning with one hour preceding the
20 opening of the polls for holding such election and ending with
21 the time when the election officers shall have finished counting
22 the votes and have left the polling place for the purpose of
23 depositing the election material in the place provided by law
24 for that purpose, excepting only police officers, who may
25 temporarily approach or enter the polling place in order to make
26 any arrest permitted by law or for the purpose of preserving
27 order and in each case remain only long enough to accomplish the
28 duties aforesaid after which the said officers shall at once
29 withdraw: Provided, however, That the rights of any individual
30 as a citizen are not impaired hereby, and the prerogative to

1 attend meetings, to hear or see any candidate or nominee, nor to
2 express one's individual opinion, shall remain inviolate: And,
3 provided further, That notwithstanding any provision of this
4 act, a person in the classified service may run for and hold a
5 noncompensated elective office, or hold a noncompensated
6 appointed office or position, of any political subdivision.

7 Section 2. (a) Those regulations of the Civil Service
8 Commission inconsistent herewith are hereby rescinded.

9 (b) The commission shall issue regulations to implement this
10 amendatory act.

11 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall
12 be retroactive to November 7, 1977.