

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2321 Session of
1982

INTRODUCED BY HOFFEL AND WACHOB, MARCH 3, 1982

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE, MARCH 3, 1982

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), entitled "An
2 act to consolidate, editorially revise, and codify the public
3 welfare laws of the Commonwealth," further providing for the
4 administration of assistance regulations.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 403, act of June 13,
8 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the "Public Welfare Code," added
9 July 15, 1976 (P.L.993, No.202), is amended and a subsection is
10 added to read:

11 Section 403. Uniformity in Administration of Assistance;
12 Regulations as to Assistance.--* * *

13 (b) The department shall establish rules, regulations and
14 standards, consistent with the law, as to eligibility for
15 assistance and as to its nature and extent. Whenever possible
16 and consistent with State law, the department shall establish
17 rules, regulation and standards for general assistance
18 consistent with those established for aid to families with

1 dependent children. In no instance shall the rules, regulations
2 and standards established for general assistance provide for
3 benefits greater than those benefits provided for aid to
4 families with dependent children. The secretary or his designee
5 in writing is the only person authorized to adopt regulations,
6 orders, or standards of general application to implement,
7 interpret, or make specific the law administered by the
8 department. The secretary shall issue interim regulations
9 whenever changes in Federal laws and regulations supersede
10 existing statutes. In adopting regulations, orders, or standards
11 of general application, the secretary shall strive for clarity
12 of language which may be readily understood by those
13 administering aid and by those who apply for or receive aid.

14 * * *

15 (e) Beginning no later than December 31, 1982, the
16 department shall conduct annual quality control reviews of the
17 general assistance caseload in accordance with a methodology and
18 scope determined by the department.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.