

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2259 Session of 2012

INTRODUCED BY BISHOP, KIRKLAND, MAHONEY AND MURT, MARCH 16, 2012

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 16, 2012

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in divorce, further providing for
3 counseling.

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

6 Section 1. Section 3302 of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subsection to read:
8 § 3302. Counseling.

9 * * *

10 (d.1) Universal.--

11 (1) This subsection applies:

12 (i) regardless of the ground for divorce; and

13 (ii) in addition to other counseling required by
14 this section.

15 (2) The court shall require up to a maximum of three
16 counseling sessions, to prepare the parties to deal with all
17 of the following:

18 (i) Anger management.

19 (ii) Applicability and implementation of Chapter 61

1 (relating to protection from abuse).

2 (iii) Effect of the behavior of the parties on any
3 child who resides with either party. Counseling under
4 this subparagraph shall not distinguish on the basis of:

5 (A) when the behavior occurs as related to an
6 order under section 3323(a) (relating to decree of
7 court); or

8 (B) whether the child is a child of the marriage
9 subject to divorce.

10 * * *

11 Section 2. The addition of 23 Pa.C.S. § 3302(d.1) shall
12 apply to actions initiated on or after the effective date of
13 this section.

14 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.