

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2703 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY GOODMAN, BROWNLEE, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, DALEY,
HESS, HORNAMAN, KNOWLES, KORTZ, MAHONEY, MILLER, NEILSON,
PASHINSKI, SCHMOTZER AND WILLIAMS, OCTOBER 17, 2012

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, OCTOBER 17, 2012

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 19, 1990 (P.L.1200, No.202),
2 entitled "An act providing for the registration and
3 regulation of solicitations by charitable organizations,
4 professional fundraisers and other solicitors; imposing
5 additional powers on the Department of State and the Office
6 of Attorney General; prescribing civil and criminal
7 penalties; and making a repeal," further providing for
8 information filed to become public records.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Section 11 of the act of December 19, 1990
12 (P.L.1200, No.202), known as the Solicitation of Funds for
13 Charitable Purposes Act, is amended to read:

14 Section 11. Information filed to become public records.

15 (a) General rule.--Except as otherwise provided in section
16 12, registration statements and applications, reports, notices,
17 contracts or agreements between charitable organizations and
18 professional fundraising counsel, professional solicitors and
19 commercial conventurers, and all other documents and information
20 required to be filed under this act with the department shall be

1 filed electronically and become public records in the office of
2 the bureau and shall be open to the general public at such time
3 and under such conditions as the department may prescribe and
4 shall be made available to the general public without charge
5 through a searchable database on the department's publicly
6 accessible Internet website.

7 (b) Duty of secretary.--The secretary shall develop an
8 electronic filing system for all documents and information
9 required to be filed with the department under this act. The
10 system shall be operational no later than January 1, 2014.

11 (c) Restricted account.--The Solicitation of Funds for
12 Charitable Purposes Account is established as a restricted
13 account within the General Fund. All of the following fees shall
14 be deposited into the account and shall be used exclusively for
15 the purpose of establishing and maintaining the searchable
16 database and electronic filing system required by this section:

17 (1) The annual registration fees for charitable
18 organizations under section 5(p).

19 (2) The late filing fees for charitable organizations
20 under section 5(q).

21 (3) The annual registration fees for professional
22 fundraising counsels under section 8(b).

23 (4) The annual registration fees for professional
24 solicitors under section 9(b).

25 (5) The contract filing fee for professional solicitors
26 under section 9(e).

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.