
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 149 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY KNOWLES, SIMMONS, SCHLOSSBERG, ROZZI, ZIMMERMAN,
V. BROWN, READSHAW, DRISCOLL, A. HARRIS, WARD, BOBACK,
KAUFFMAN, ORTITAY, B. MILLER, GILLEN, PICKETT, GABLER,
MCGINNIS AND SOLOMON, JANUARY 23, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JANUARY 23, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in obstructing governmental
3 operations, providing for unlawful use of an audio or video
4 device in court.

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

7 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 5103.1. Unlawful use of an audio or video device in court.

10 (a) Offense defined.--A person commits a misdemeanor of the
11 second degree if the person in any manner and for any purpose
12 uses or operates a device to capture, record, transmit or
13 broadcast a photograph, video, motion picture or audio of a
14 proceeding or person within a hearing room, courtroom or the
15 environs of a hearing room or courtroom without the approval of
16 the court or presiding judicial officer or except as provided by
17 rules of court.

18 (b) Definition.--As used in this section, the term

1 "environs" means the area immediately surrounding any entrance
2 or exit.

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