

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 418

Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY ITKIN, ABRAHAM AND TRELLO, MARCH 2, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 2, 1977

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of August 21, 1953 (P.L.1323, No.373), entitled
2 "An act concerning notaries public; and amending, revising,
3 consolidating and changing the law relating thereto,"
4 reducing the residency requirement for eligibility, further
5 providing for the approval of applications and providing for
6 surrender of the seal and for a penalty.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 3, act of August 21, 1953 (P.L.1323,
10 No.373), known as "The Notary Public Law," amended June 16, 1972
11 (P.L.440, No.133), is amended to read:

12 Section 3. Eligibility.--Any citizen of Pennsylvania, being
13 eighteen (18) years of age or over, of known character,
14 integrity and ability, shall be eligible to the office of notary
15 public, if he shall have resided within this Commonwealth for at
16 least [two (2) years] one (1) year immediately preceding the
17 date of his appointment, and if he shall be a registered elector
18 in the Commonwealth.

19 Section 2. The first paragraph of section 5 of the act is
20 amended to read:

1 Section 5. Application to Become a Notary Public.--

2 Applications for appointment to the office of notary public
3 shall be made to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, on forms
4 prescribed and furnished by him, and shall be accompanied by a
5 fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25), payable to the order of "State
6 Treasurer," by money order, certified check, or draft. Each
7 application shall bear the endorsement of the Senator of the
8 district in which the applicant resides, or, in the case of a
9 vacancy in that senatorial district, shall be endorsed by the
10 Senator of an adjacent district. No Senator shall refuse to
11 endorse an application if the good moral character of the
12 applicant is established.

13 * * *

14 Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

15 Section 22.1. Surrender of Seal.--Should an application or
16 renewal be rejected, or should a commission be revoked or
17 recalled for any reason, the applicant or notary shall deliver
18 the seal of office to the Department of State within ten (10)
19 days after notice from the department.

20 Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall
21 be guilty of a summary offense and upon conviction thereof shall
22 be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding three hundred dollars
23 (\$300) or to imprisonment not exceeding ninety (90) days, or
24 both.

25 Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.