

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1806

Session of
1981

INTRODUCED BY SALVATORE, PIEVSKY, WOGAN, WESTON, PERZEL,
GREENFIELD, McCLATCHY, HAGARTY, BOWSER, J. L. WRIGHT,
MICOZZIE, HASAY, POTT, BELFANTI, WAMBACH, STUBAN, HOFFEL,
FARGO, SAURMAN, JACKSON, NAHILL, E. H. SMITH, EVANS, PRATT,
VROON, MERRY, E. Z. TAYLOR, DAVIES, WOZNIAK, BROWN, FISCHER,
TRELLO, MORRIS, McCALL, RYBAK, COHEN, PETRONE, ARTY,
PETRARCA, JOHNSON, WILLIAMS, ITKIN AND CIVERA,
SEPTEMBER 21, 1981

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, FEBRUARY 2, 1982

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for crimes against race,
3 color, ANCESTRY OR NATIONAL ORIGIN, creed or religion by
4 prohibiting certain acts. <—

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

7 Section 1. Title 18, act of November 25, 1970 (P.L.707,
8 No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, is
9 amended by adding a section to read:

10 § 2710. Ethnic terrorism.

11 (a) Fear of bodily violence.--A person is guilty of a
12 misdemeanor of the first degree if he purposely, knowingly or
13 recklessly puts or attempts to put another in fear of bodily
14 violence by placing on public or private property a symbol, an
15 object, a characterization, an appellation or graffiti that

1 exposes another to threats of violence, contempt or hatred on
2 the basis of race, color, ANCESTRY OR NATIONAL ORIGIN, creed or <—
3 religion, including, but not limited to a burning cross or Nazi
4 swastika. A person shall not be guilty of an attempt unless his
5 actions cause a serious and imminent likelihood of causing fear
6 of unlawful bodily violence.

7 (b) Damaging of property.--A person is guilty of a
8 misdemeanor of the second degree if he purposely defaces or
9 damages, without authorization of the owner or tenant, any
10 private premises or property primarily used for religious,
11 educational, residential, memorial, charitable, or cemetery
12 purposes, or for assembly by persons of a particular race,
13 color, ANCESTRY OR NATIONAL ORIGIN, creed or religion by placing <—
14 thereon a symbol, an object, a characterization, an appellation,
15 or graffiti that exposes another to threat of violence, contempt
16 or hatred on the basis of race, color, ANCESTRY OR NATIONAL <—
17 ORIGIN, creed or religion, including but not limited to, a
18 burning cross or Nazi swastika.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.