
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 2184 Session of
1980

INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. SPENCER, BERSON, W. D. HUTCHINSON, PICCOLA
AND D. M. FISHER, JANUARY 25, 1980

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, JUNE 17, 1980

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the
3 jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

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

6 Section 1. Section 722 of Title 42, act of November 25, 1970
7 (P.L.707, No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes, is amended to read:

9 § 722. Direct appeals from courts of common pleas.

10 The Supreme Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of
11 appeals from final orders of the courts of common pleas in the
12 following classes of cases:

13 (1) [Felonious homicide.] ~~Matters prescribed by general~~ <—
14 ~~rule.~~ HOMICIDE CASES IN WHICH THE DEATH PENALTY IS IMPOSED <—
15 AND THE AUTOMATIC REVIEW OF SENTENCES AS PROVIDED BY 18 <—
16 PA.C.S. § 1311(H) (RELATING TO REVIEW OF DEATH SENTENCE).

17 (2) The right to public office.

1 (3) [Matters decided in the orphans' court division.]
2 Matters where the qualifications, tenure or right to serve,
3 or the manner of service, of any member of the judiciary is
4 drawn in question.

5 [(4) †Direct criminal contempt in the courts of common <—
6 pleas and other contempt proceedings in the courts of common
7 pleas relating to orders which are appealable directly to the
8 Supreme Court.] ~~Automatic review of sentences as provided by~~ <—
9 ~~18 Pa.C.S. § 1311(h) (relating to review of death sentence).~~

10 [(5)] (4) Supersession of a district attorney by an <—
11 Attorney General or by a court.

12 [(6)] (5) Matters where the right or power of the <—
13 Commonwealth or any political subdivision to create or issue
14 indebtedness is drawn in direct question.

15 [(7)] (6) Matters where the court of common pleas has <—
16 held invalid as repugnant to the Constitution, treaties or
17 laws of the United States, or to the Constitution of this
18 Commonwealth, any treaty or law of the United States or any
19 provision of the Constitution of, or of any statute of, this
20 Commonwealth, or any provision of any home rule charter.

21 [(8)] (7) Matters where the right to practice law is <—
22 drawn in direct question. [or where the matter has been
23 initiated by the agency vested with the power to discipline
24 or recommend the discipline of attorneys at law.]

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