

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 920

Session of  
1983

INTRODUCED BY RICHARDSON, KOSINSKI, STEVENS, DeWEESE, DEAL,  
TRUMAN AND CARN, MAY 3, 1983

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MAY 3, 1983

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, prohibiting defendants in  
3 small claims cases from countersuing for the purpose of  
4 forcing the case into a higher court.

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

7 Section 1. Title 42 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 7103. Limitation on certain countersuits.

10 No defendant in a civil action filed in a court of the minor  
11 judiciary shall be permitted to file a countersuit against the  
12 plaintiff in an amount which would force the case to be  
13 transferred to a higher court. The district justice or judge  
14 shall have jurisdiction to decide whether or not the countersuit  
15 would have that effect.

16 Section 2. This act shall apply to original actions filed on  
17 and after the effective date of this act.

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