

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 470

Session of
1987

INTRODUCED BY FOX, STEIGHNER, NAHILL, RYBAK, TRELLO,
CAPPABIANCA, J. TAYLOR, COWELL, VROON, TIGUE, JOHNSON,
J. L. WRIGHT, BOWSER, KOSINSKI, DAVIES, GEIST, VEON, MAIALE,
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PETRARCA, OLASZ, KENNEY, RAYMOND, SEMMEL, FISCHER, CORNELL,
O'BRIEN, BUNT, MAYERNIK AND STABACK, FEBRUARY 25, 1987

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 25, 1987

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
16 other assistants and employees in certain departments, boards,
17 and commissions; and prescribing the manner in which the
18 number and compensation of the deputies and all other
19 assistants and employees of certain departments, boards and
20 commissions shall be determined," establishing a Missing
21 Children Coordination Office in the Office of Attorney
22 General; and providing for its powers and duties.

23 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
24 hereby enacts as follows:

1 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
2 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding an
3 article to read:

4 ARTICLE IX-C

5 MISSING CHILDREN COORDINATION OFFICE

6 Section 901-C. Missing Children Coordination Office.--(a)
7 There is hereby established, within the Office of Attorney
8 General, a Missing Children Coordination Office to coordinate
9 activities throughout this Commonwealth relating to the problem
10 of missing children.

11 (b) The Missing Children Coordination Office shall be headed
12 by a person to be known as the Commissioner on Missing Children,
13 who shall be appointed by the Attorney General. The Commissioner
14 on Missing Children shall be a person who by reason of training,
15 experience and attainment is qualified to administer and
16 coordinate activities relating to missing children. Compensation
17 shall be set by the Executive Board.

18 (c) The Attorney General shall appoint such additional
19 professional, technical and clerical staff as shall be necessary
20 for the performance or function of the office.

21 Section 902-C. Powers and Duties of the Missing Children
22 Coordination Office.--The Missing Children Coordination Office
23 shall have the power and its duty shall be:

24 (1) To establish a clearinghouse or central registry for
25 missing children and to establish a central repository for all
26 information concerning missing children.

27 (2) To establish a toll-free telephone number for use in
28 accepting citizen reports of sightings of missing children
29 within this Commonwealth.

30 (3) To develop Statewide media access so that missing

1 children's photographs can be disseminated throughout this
2 Commonwealth as fast as possible.

3 (4) To provide coordination with and secure the cooperation
4 of other State and Federal agencies and the National Center for
5 Missing and Exploited Children in investigating cases of missing
6 children.

7 (5) To investigate and to render assistance to other law
8 enforcement agencies, upon request, in cases involving missing
9 children.

10 (6) To coordinate the actions of private volunteer
11 organizations which may be able to provide assistance in
12 searches for missing children.

13 (7) To provide assistance in returning missing children from
14 this Commonwealth who are located out of State.

15 (8) To provide support services to local law enforcement
16 agencies, such as special expertise or equipment and assistance
17 in crime analysis, in cases involving more than one jurisdiction
18 or agency.

19 (9) To draw up emergency preparedness plans to ensure the
20 most effective and efficient use of State resources during a
21 missing child investigation.

22 (10) To assist in the investigation of child exploitation
23 cases such as those cases of child pornography and child
24 prostitution or child sex rings which have links to organized
25 crime, or display an internal organization that transcends the
26 geographical limits of a single jurisdiction.

27 (11) To develop special training curriculum and training
28 materials for criminal justice professionals, medical
29 professionals and other youth service professionals to help them
30 handle missing child cases and cases of child victimization.

1 (12) To assist in the development of education and
2 prevention programs for the community, for parents and for
3 children, and to disseminate these materials to the public.

4 (13) To compile and analyze statistics and data concerning
5 missing and exploited children.

6 (14) To recommend to the Governor and the General Assembly
7 changes in State programs and policies that will reduce the
8 problems of missing children and child abduction and abuse.

9 (15) To otherwise work with and coordinate, on a Statewide
10 basis, activities of citizens, groups and law enforcement
11 authorities relating to the problem of missing children.

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