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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**

**No. 1115** Session of  
1997

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INTRODUCED BY BARD, ROSS, HERMAN, LESCOVITZ AND COY,  
APRIL 2, 1997

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 2, 1997

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for  
3 additional methods for the recording and copying of certain  
4 records.

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

7 Section 1. Sections 4323 and 4324 of Title 42 of the  
8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

9 § 4323. Form of permanent recordation.

10 [Records which are classified as records of permanent value  
11 shall, prior to destruction or other removal from the office of  
12 the person having custody thereof, be processed in conformity  
13 with general rules so that they may be reproduced by any  
14 photostatic, photographic, microphotographic, microfilm, video  
15 tape, magnetic tape, or other mechanical process which produces  
16 a clear, accurate and permanent copy, microcopy or reproduction  
17 of the original, in accordance with standards not less than  
18 those approved for permanent records by the National Bureau of

1 Standards.] Any photostatic, photographic, microphotographic,  
2 microfilm, microcard, miniature photographic, optical,  
3 electronic or other process which accurately reproduces the  
4 original and forms a durable medium for recording, storing and  
5 reproducing the original in accordance with standards, policies  
6 and procedures for the creation, maintenance, transmission or  
7 reproduction of images of records approved by the governing  
8 authority, but not less than those standards, policies and  
9 procedures approved by the National Institute of Standards and  
10 Technology, may be utilized. Any document within the scope of  
11 this section and which previously has been recorded, copied or  
12 recopied also may be reproduced by processes authorized by this  
13 section.

14 § 4324. Copies of destroyed records.

15 The photostatic, photographic, microphotographic,  
16 microfilmed, miniature photographic, optical, electronic or  
17 otherwise reproduced copy of any record destroyed or disposed of  
18 as authorized pursuant to this subchapter, or a certified copy  
19 thereof, shall be admissible in evidence in any matter, and  
20 shall have the same force and effect as though the original  
21 record had been produced and proved. It shall be the duty of the  
22 person who would have had custody of the original record, had it  
23 not been destroyed pursuant to law, to prepare enlarged, typed  
24 or photographic copies of such reproduced records whenever their  
25 production is required.

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.