
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 770 Session of
2005

INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS, BISHOP, CALTAGIRONE, KIRKLAND, PISTELLA,
J. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TIGUE AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 14, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, MARCH 14, 2005

AN ACT

1 Requiring community notification of certain prison projects in
2 cities of the first class.

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

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Community
7 Notification of Prison Facilities Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Prison." A detention center, prison or similar correctional
13 facility owned or operated by a county or privately owned or
14 operated. The term does not include a facility certified,
15 licensed or operated by the Department of Public Welfare or the
16 Department of Health, nor prerelease centers under the act of
17 July 16, 1968 (P.L.351, No.173), referred to as the Prisoner
18 Pre-release Plan Law.

1 Section 3. Public hearing required.

2 (a) General rule.--No prison may be considered at any time
3 for zoning, planning, housing or similar local code approval in
4 a city of the first class unless the applicant has certified
5 that the applicant has met the requirements of subsection (b).

6 (b) Notice and hearing.--

7 (1) The applicant shall hold two public meetings for the
8 purpose of soliciting from members of the public,
9 suggestions, comments and objections about the proposed
10 prison. At least 15 days prior to the holding of any public
11 meeting pursuant to this subsection, the applicant shall give
12 public notice of the meeting in a newspaper of general
13 circulation in a city of the first class.

14 (2) Notice of the proposed prison shall be provided to a
15 city of the first class, the State Senator of the senatorial
16 district in which the project is proposed to be located and
17 the member of the House of Representatives of the legislative
18 district in which the project is proposed to be located.

19 Section 4. Effective date.

20 This act shall take effect in 60 days.