INTRODUCED BY WHITE, FARRY, KAUFER, STEPHENS, TOMLINSON, HILL-
EVANS, THOMAS, STAATS, T. DAVIS, DRISCOLL, CIRESI, STRUZZI,
DeLUCA, ROZZI, READSHAW, MERSKI AND WARREN, JULY 1, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, JULY 1, 2020

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), entitled "An
act defining the liability of an employer to pay damages for
injuries received by an employe in the course of employment;
establishing an elective schedule of compensation; providing
procedure for the determination of liability and compensation
thereunder; and prescribing penalties," in interpretation and
definitions, further providing for the definition of
occupational disease.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1.  Section 108 of the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736,
No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, is amended by
adding a subsection to read:

Section 108.  The term "occupational disease," as used in
this act, shall mean only the following diseases.

* * *

(s)  The novel coronavirus as identified in the proclamation
of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,
published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of
the state of disaster emergency in the occupations of
professional and volunteer firefighters, volunteer ambulance
corps personnel, volunteer rescue and lifesaving squad
personnel, emergency medical services personnel and paramedics,
Pennsylvania State Police officers, police officers requiring
certification under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 (relating to employees),
parole agents employed by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation
and Parole, county probation officers, deputy sheriffs and
deputy coroners, Commonwealth and county correctional employes
and forensic security employes of the Department of Human
Services having duties, including care, custody and control of
inmates involving exposure to such disease. A positive test for
infection with the novel coronavirus in any of these occupations
shall establish a presumption that the disease is an
occupational disease within the meaning of this act, but this
presumption may not be conclusive and may be rebutted.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.