THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2822  Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY FLYNN, SCHLOSSBERG, GALLOWAY, DELLOSO, KINSEY, HARRIS, HILL-EVANS, DeLUCA, LEE, SCHWEYER, GREEN, SANCHEZ, NEILSON, DEASY AND KORTZ, AUGUST 28, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, AUGUST 28, 2020

AN ACT

Providing for notification regarding COVID-19 among members and staff members of the General Assembly.

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

Section 1. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the COVID-19 General Assembly Notification Act.

Section 2. Purpose.

The purpose of this act is to ensure transparency among the members of the General Assembly and their staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Section 3. Definitions.

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

"COVID-19." The coronavirus disease 2019, an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus
that was first identified during December 2019 in Wuhan, China.

Section 4. Notification.

(a) Notification of officers.--A member or staff member of the General Assembly who is diagnosed with COVID-19 or goes into quarantine or isolation after being exposed to COVID-19 shall immediately inform the legislative presiding officer of the appropriate chamber, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the appropriate chamber and the Chief Clerk of the appropriate chamber.

(b) Notification of other members and staff.--Within 24 hours after notice is provided to the appropriate individuals under subsection (a), the other members and staff members of the appropriate chamber shall be notified. The following shall apply:

(1) Notification shall follow guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Health.

(2) Notification shall be consistent with confidentiality provisions included in applicable Federal or State laws.

(c) Notification of other chamber.--If a member or staff member of one chamber of the General Assembly reports a positive COVID-19 diagnosis or reports entrance into quarantine or isolation, the members and staff members of the other chamber of the General Assembly shall be notified, in accordance with the requirements under subsection (b)(1) and (2).

Section 5. Expiration.

This act shall expire upon the termination or expiration under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7301(c) (relating to general authority of
Governor) of 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.

Section 6. Effective date.

This act shall take effect immediately.