

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 832 Session of  
1995

INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, M. N. WRIGHT, GEIST, RAYMOND, MERRY,  
MILLER, TRELLO, YOUNGBLOOD, WAUGH, MELIO, E. Z. TAYLOR AND  
WOGAN, FEBRUARY 14, 1995

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 14, 1995

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for obstructing emergency  
3 services.

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

6 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 5112. Obstructing emergency services.

9 (a) Offense defined.--

10 (1) A person commits a summary offense if he, through  
11 his intentional action, impedes, obstructs or interferes with  
12 emergency services personnel performing a rescue, providing  
13 emergency medical services to an injured victim or performing  
14 firefighting activities.

15 (2) A person commits a misdemeanor of the third degree  
16 if he enters a secured emergency zone without first obtaining  
17 permission from the official in charge of the emergency  
18 services personnel which established the zone.

1     (b) Emergency zones.--Emergency services personnel are  
2     authorized to establish secured emergency zones in order to  
3     insure the efficient rendering of the services being provided.

4     (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
5     words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
6     subsection:

7     "Emergency medical services." The services utilized in  
8     responding to the needs of an individual for immediate medical  
9     care in order to prevent loss of life or the aggravation of  
10    physiological or psychological illness or injury.

11    "Emergency services personnel." Police, firefighters,  
12    licensed physicians, registered nurses, emergency medical  
13    technicians and technician-paramedics and first responders.

14    "Rescue." The act of extricating persons from entrapment or  
15    dangerous situations which pose the imminent threat of death or  
16    serious bodily injury.

17    "Secured emergency zone." A clearly designated area  
18    surrounding victims in need of rescue or emergency medical  
19    services. The term shall also include the area surrounding a  
20    fire.

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