

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 650 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY DALLY, BASTIAN, BELFANTI, BEYER, CALTAGIRONE,
CAPPELLI, CARROLL, CLYMER, DALEY, DENLINGER, DePASQUALE,
EVERETT, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, GEIST, GOODMAN, HARRIS,
HENNESSEY, HESS, HUTCHINSON, KILLION, KULA, MAHONEY,
McILHATTAN, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, O'NEILL, PHILLIPS, RAYMOND,
READSHAW, REICHLEY, SAINATO, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH,
STABACK, STERN, SWANGER, TURZAI, WALKO AND YOUNGBLOOD,
MARCH 6, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 6, 2007

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for
3 volunteer firefighter civil immunity; and further defining
4 "local agency" for purposes of matters affecting government
5 units.

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

8 Section 1. Section 8332.3 of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

10 § 8332.3. Volunteer firefighter civil immunity.

11 Volunteer firefighters shall be treated as public employees
12 and volunteer firefighter companies shall be treated as local
13 agencies as defined in section 8501 (relating to definitions).

14 This section shall not be construed to reduce or eliminate any
15 other immunity provided to volunteer firefighters by law.

16 Section 2. The definition of "local agency" in section 8501

1 of Title 42 is amended to read:

2 § 8501. Definitions.

3 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
4 shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the
5 meanings given to them in this section:

6 * * *

7 "Local agency." A government unit other than the
8 Commonwealth government. The term includes, but is not limited
9 to, an intermediate unit; [municipalities] a municipality
10 cooperating in the exercise or performance of governmental
11 functions, powers or responsibilities under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 23
12 Subch. A (relating to intergovernmental cooperation); [and
13 councils] a council of government and any other [entities]
14 entity created by two or more municipalities under 53 Pa.C.S.
15 Ch. 23 Subch. A[.]; and a volunteer firefighter company,
16 regardless of whether the company has been or is created
17 pursuant to relevant law or officially accorded the status of
18 such a company by the political subdivision which it serves.

19 Section 3. This act shall apply to a cause of action that
20 accrues on or after the effective date of this section.

21 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.