

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2624 Session of
2008

INTRODUCED BY HARHAI, ARGALL, BELFANTI, BENNINGTON, BIANCUCCI,
FREEMAN, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GRUCELA, HARKINS, HENNESSEY,
HUTCHINSON, JAMES, JOSEPHS, KULA, MANN, MELIO, MYERS,
M. O'BRIEN, SEIP, SIPTROTH, YOUNGBLOOD AND BRENNAN,
JUNE 11, 2008

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 11, 2008

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
17 and commissions; and prescribing the manner in which the
18 number and compensation of the deputies and all other
19 assistants and employes of certain departments, boards and
20 commissions shall be determined," establishing the Suicide
21 Ideation and Depression Awareness Program; and making an
22 appropriation.

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

25 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
26 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a

1 section to read:

2 Section 915-B. Suicide Ideation and Depression Awareness
3 Program.--In addition to the powers and duties established
4 heretofore under this article:

5 (1) The Department of Corrections shall establish,
6 coordinate and administer a suicidal ideation and depression
7 awareness, intervention and treatment program which shall
8 function within each institution. The program shall be available
9 solely for the utilization of the department's correctional
10 officers and prison staff.

11 (2) The department shall have the authority to establish
12 regulations necessary to effectuate and maintain operation of
13 the program required under clause (1).

14 Section 2. The sum of \$500,000, or as much thereof as may be
15 necessary, is hereby appropriated to the Department of
16 Corrections for fiscal year 2008-2009 in order to develop and
17 implement the Suicide Ideation and Depression Awareness Program
18 established under this act.

19 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.