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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 725 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY DiGIROLAMO, BISHOP, K. BOYLE, O'BRIEN, HARHAI,  
D. COSTA, COHEN, HALUSKA, SANTARSIERO, DONATUCCI, PASHINSKI,  
KORTZ, READSHAW, V. BROWN, FRANKEL, NEILSON, CALTAGIRONE,  
HESS, WATSON, MURT, MAHONEY, ROSS, YOUNGBLOOD, DeLUCA,  
GABLER, FREEMAN AND DAVIDSON, FEBRUARY 14, 2013

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, FEBRUARY 14, 2013

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for education and  
3 training.

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

6 Section 1. Section 6383(a) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 6383. Education and training.

9 (a) Duties of department and county agencies.--

10 (1) The department and each county agency, both jointly  
11 and individually, shall conduct a continuing publicity and  
12 education program for the citizens of this Commonwealth aimed  
13 at the prevention of child abuse and child neglect, including  
14 the prevention of newborn abandonment, the identification of  
15 abused and neglected children and the provision of necessary  
16 ameliorative services to abused and neglected children and  
17 their families.

1       (2) The department and each county agency shall conduct  
2 an ongoing training and education program for local staff,  
3 persons required to make reports and other appropriate  
4 persons in order to familiarize those persons with the  
5 reporting and investigative procedures for cases of suspected  
6 child abuse and the rehabilitative services that are  
7 available to children and families.

8       (3) In addition, the department shall, by regulation,  
9 establish a program of training and certification for persons  
10 classified as protective services workers[. The regulations  
11 shall provide for the] that includes the following:

12           (i) The grandfathering of all current permanent  
13 protective services workers as certified protective  
14 services workers.

15           (ii) Upon request by the county agency and approval  
16 of the department, the agency may conduct the training of  
17 the county's protective services workers.

18           (iii) Basic training on drug and alcohol abuse and  
19 addiction, warning signs of drug and alcohol problems,  
20 methods of referral for assessment and treatment of  
21 addiction.

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