

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1419 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY TEPLITZ, SMITH, KASUNIC, FONTANA, SCHWANK, HUGHES
AND COSTA, JUNE 12, 2014

REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, JUNE 12, 2014

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89, No.18), entitled "An
2 act creating the Department of Conservation and Natural
3 Resources consisting of certain functions of the Department
4 of Environmental Resources and the Department of Community
5 Affairs; renaming the Department of Environmental Resources
6 as the Department of Environmental Protection; defining the
7 role of the Environmental Quality Board in the Department of
8 Environmental Protection; making changes to responsibilities
9 of the State Conservation Commission and the Department of
10 Agriculture; transferring certain powers and duties to the
11 Department of Health; and repealing inconsistent acts,"
12 defining "certified lifeguard"; and providing for certified
13 lifeguard requirement in State parks with public beaches.

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

16 Section 1. Section 103 of the act of June 28, 1995 (P.L.89,
17 No.18), known as the Conservation and Natural Resources Act, is
18 amended by adding a definition to read:

19 Section 103. Definitions.

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

23 "Certified lifeguard." A certified lifeguard is one that

1 possesses a valid certificate from a nationally recognized
2 organization that certifies lifeguards such as the American Red
3 Cross or the American Lifeguard Association.

4 * * *

5 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
6 Section 323. Certified lifeguard requirement in State parks
7 with public beaches.

8 (a) Peak time requirement.--The department shall employ a
9 sufficient number of certified lifeguards to provide water
10 safety and lifesaving services to patrons in each State park
11 that has a public beach during peak times as the public beach is
12 open to patrons. The department shall consult with local parks
13 to determine such peak times.

14 (b) Nonpeak times.--The department shall consult with local
15 parks to determine appropriate staffing levels during nonpeak
16 times.

17 (c) Notification.--Information shall be posted at each
18 beach, on all brochures and on the department's and State parks'
19 websites to notify the public of the staffing schedule and to
20 warn the public that they are swimming at their own risk during
21 those periods when no lifeguards are on duty. The notices shall
22 include specific dates and times and must be written in both
23 English and Spanish.

24 (d) Rules and regulations.--The department may promulgate
25 rules and regulations to administer and enforce this section.

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