## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## **HOUSE BILL**

No. 837

Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY MURT, BAKER, BARRAR, V. BROWN, D. COSTA, COX, DeLUCA, DRISCOLL, FARRY, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, MOUL, MULLERY, NEILSON, READSHAW AND WATSON, MARCH 13, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, MARCH 13, 2017

## AN ACT

- Amending the act of December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), 1 entitled "An act prohibiting unfair methods of competition 2 and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of 3 any trade or commerce, giving the Attorney General and District Attorneys certain powers and duties and providing 5 penalties," further providing for civil penalties. 6 7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 8 hereby enacts as follows: 9 Section 1. Section 8(b) of the act of December 17, 1968 10 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, is amended to read: 11
- 12 Section 8. Civil Penalties. --\* \* \*
- 13 (b) In any action brought under section 4 of this act, if
- 14 the court finds that a person, firm or corporation is wilfully
- 15 using or has wilfully used a method, act or practice declared
- 16 unlawful by section 3 of this act, the Attorney General or the
- 17 appropriate District Attorney, acting in the name of the
- 18 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, may recover, on behalf of the
- 19 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a civil penalty of not exceeding

- 1 [one]  $\underline{\text{ten}}$  thousand dollars [(\$1,000)]  $\underline{\text{($10,000)}}$  per violation,
- 2 which civil penalty shall be in addition to other relief which
- 3 may be granted under sections 4 and 4.1 of this act. Where the
- 4 victim of the wilful use of a method, act or practice declared
- 5 unlawful by section 3 of this act is sixty years of age or
- 6 older, the civil penalty shall not exceed [three] <u>fifteen</u>
- 7 thousand dollars [(\$3,000)]  $\underline{(\$15,000)}$  per violation, which
- 8 penalty shall be in addition to other relief which may be
- 9 granted under sections 2 and 4.1 of this act.
- 10 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.