

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2514 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY WHITE, FARRY, HILL-EVANS, THOMAS, POLINCHOCK,
DRISCOLL, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHLEGEL CULVER AND CIRESI,
APRIL 13, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, APRIL 13, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), entitled "An
2 act defining the liability of an employer to pay damages for
3 injuries received by an employe in the course of employment;
4 establishing an elective schedule of compensation; providing
5 procedure for the determination of liability and compensation
6 thereunder; and prescribing penalties," in interpretation and
7 definitions, further providing for the definition of
8 occupational disease.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Section 108 of the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736,
12 No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, is amended by
13 adding a subsection to read:

14 Section 108. The term "occupational disease," as used in
15 this act, shall mean only the following diseases.

16 * * *

17 (s) The novel coronavirus as identified in the proclamation
18 of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,
19 published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of
20 the state of disaster emergency in the occupations of

professional and volunteer firefighters, volunteer ambulance
corps personnel, volunteer rescue and lifesaving squad
personnel, emergency medical services personnel and paramedics,
Pennsylvania State Police officers, police officers requiring
certification under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 (relating to employees),
parole agents employed by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation
and Parole, county probation officers, deputy sheriffs and
deputy coroners, Commonwealth and county correctional employes
and forensic security employes of the Department of Human
Services having duties, including care, custody and control of
inmates involving exposure to this disease. The following shall
apply:

(1) A positive test for infection with this disease in any
of these occupations shall establish a presumption that this
disease is an occupational disease within the meaning of this
act, but this presumption may not be conclusive and may be
rebutted.

(2) This subsection shall apply to any positive test
described under paragraph (1) that occurs on or after March 6,
2020.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.