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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2352 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY MARCELL, WHITE, SCHEUREN, STAATS AND GROVE,  
JUNE 10, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 10, 2024

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in burglary and other criminal  
3 intrusion, providing for the offense of institutional  
4 trespass.

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

7 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 3503.1. Institutional trespass.

10 (a) Offense.--A person commits the offense of institutional  
11 trespass if, knowing that he or she is not licensed or  
12 privileged to do so, the person enters or remains in any  
13 institutional building or property for the purpose of one or  
14 more of the following:

15 (1) Threatening or terrorizing the owner or occupant of  
16 the premises.

17 (2) Starting or causing to be started any fire upon the  
18 premises.

19 (3) Defacing or damaging the institutional building or

1 property.

2 (4) Disrupting the work or operation of the occupant of  
3 the institutional building or property.

4 (5) Threatening or terrorizing another person.

5 (b) Grading.--An offense under this section is a felony of  
6 the third degree.

7 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
8 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
9 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

10 "Institutional building or property." The term includes any  
11 of the following:

12 (1) A church, synagogue or other facility or place used  
13 for religious worship or other religious purposes.

14 (2) A cemetery, mortuary or other facility used for the  
15 purpose of burial or memorializing the dead.

16 (3) A school, educational facility, community center,  
17 municipal building, courthouse facility, State or local  
18 government building or vehicle or juvenile detention center.

19 (4) The grounds adjacent to and owned or occupied by any  
20 facility specified in paragraph (1), (2) or (3).

21 (5) Personal property located in any facility under  
22 paragraph (1), (2), (3) or (4).

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