

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1025 Session of  
2013

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, MAHONEY AND COHEN, MARCH 19, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 19, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in traffic courts,  
3 further providing for Traffic Court of Philadelphia; and  
4 providing for president judge and for masters of Traffic  
5 Court of Philadelphia.

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

8 Section 1. Section 1321 of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania  
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

10 § 1321. Traffic Court of Philadelphia.

11 The Traffic Court of Philadelphia shall be a court not of  
12 record and shall consist of [seven judges] a president judge and  
13 six masters. The court is established for the City and County of  
14 Philadelphia.

15 Section 2. Title 42 is amended by adding sections to read:

16 § 1322. President judge.

17 The president judge of the Traffic Court of Philadelphia  
18 shall be appointed by the Governor for a term of six years and  
19 shall supervise the work and administration of the traffic  
20 court. The president judge may not preside over or adjudicate

1 any case or impose any fine or costs.

2 § 1323. Masters.

3 (a) Qualifications.--In order to be elected, a master must:

4 (1) Have at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited  
5 institution of higher education.

6 (2) Have been a resident of the city for a period of not  
7 less than four years.

8 (3) Not been convicted or pleaded nolo contendere to a  
9 criminal offense graded higher than a summary offense in this  
10 Commonwealth.

11 (4) Not have outstanding parking or moving violations.

12 (5) Possess a valid driver's license.

13 (6) Have passed a certification examination adopted by  
14 rule of the president judge of the traffic court.

15 (b) Term of office.--A master shall be elected for a term of  
16 six years.

17 (c) Duties.--A master shall conduct hearings in cases before  
18 the traffic court and submit proposed findings of fact and  
19 conclusions of law to the municipal court for final disposition  
20 of the cases.

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