
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 516 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY TEPLITZ, BREWSTER, FONTANA, HUGHES, SCHWANK,
COSTA, TARTAGLIONE AND SMITH, FEBRUARY 19, 2015

REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
FEBRUARY 19, 2015

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," in
12 preliminary provisions, defining "certified lifeguard"; and,
13 in Department of Conservation and Natural Resources,
14 providing for certified lifeguard requirement in State parks
15 with public beaches.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
17 hereby enacts as follows:

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

21 Section 103. Definitions.

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

1 "Certified lifeguard." A certified lifeguard is one that
2 possesses a valid certificate from a nationally recognized
3 organization that certifies lifeguards such as the American Red
4 Cross or the American Lifeguard Association.

5 * * *

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

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

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

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

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

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