AN ACT

Sec. 1. Section 508(a) of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

§ 508. Use of force in law enforcement.

(a) Peace officer's use of force in making arrest.--

[(1)] A peace officer, or any person whom he has summoned or directed to assist him, need not retreat or desist from efforts to make a lawful arrest because of resistance or threatened resistance to the arrest. He is justified in the use of [any] reasonable force which he believes to be necessary to effect the arrest and of [any] reasonable force which he believes to be necessary to defend himself or another from bodily harm while making the arrest. However, he is justified in using deadly force only when he reasonably...
believes that such force is necessary to [prevent death or serious bodily injury to himself or such other person, or when he believes both that:

(i) such force is necessary to prevent the arrest from being defeated by resistance or escape; and

(ii) the person to be arrested has committed or attempted a forcible felony or is attempting to escape and possesses a deadly weapon, or otherwise indicates that he will endanger human life or inflict serious bodily injury unless arrested without delay.

(2) A peace officer making an arrest pursuant to an invalid warrant is justified in the use of any force which he would be justified in using if the warrant were valid, unless he knows that the warrant is invalid.]

protect himself or another from imminent death, serious bodily injury, kidnapping or sexual intercourse compelled by force or threat.

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