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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 499

Session of  
1979

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INTRODUCED BY D. S. HAYES, GALLEN AND BOWSER, MARCH 6, 1979

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 6, 1979

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AN ACT

1 Providing for legislative review of proposed rules and  
2 regulations.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Rules and  
7 Regulations Review Act."

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words or phrases when used in this act shall  
10 have the meanings given to them in this section, unless the  
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Agency." Any department, departmental administrative board  
13 or commission, independent board or commission, agency or any  
14 other authority of this Commonwealth now existing or hereafter  
15 created, but shall not include the Senate or House of  
16 Representatives or any court, the Pennsylvania Fish Commission,  
17 the Pennsylvania Game Commission, political subdivision,  
18 municipal or local authority.

1 "Rule or regulation." Any regulation, proposed or adopted by  
2 an agency prescribing or directing activity or forbearance. The  
3 term shall not include a proclamation, executive order,  
4 directive or other similar document promulgated by the Governor  
5 but shall include a rule or regulation which may be promulgated  
6 by an agency only with the approval of the Governor.

7 Section 3. Rules and regulations automatically reviewed.

8 (a) Each agency shall transmit any proposed rule or  
9 regulation for approval to a joint committee composed of the  
10 membership of the appropriate House and Senate Committees having  
11 jurisdiction over the subject matter of the proposed rule or  
12 regulation. No rule or regulation may be finally adopted without  
13 the approval of the appropriate joint committee.

14 (b) The joint committee shall set forth and transmit its  
15 findings and decision to the head of the agency which proposed  
16 the rule or regulation presented for approval.

17 (c) The House of Representatives and the Senate shall by  
18 concurrent resolution establish procedures for the referral of  
19 rules and regulations to joint committees and for the  
20 consideration of such rules and regulations by said committees.

21 Section 4. Rejection of proposed rule or regulation.

22 (a) A proposed rule or regulation may be rejected or  
23 accepted if a majority of the joint committee is recorded as  
24 voting in favor of such action. Any rule or resolution not acted  
25 upon within 90 days shall be deemed rejected.

26 Section 5. Effective date.

27 This act shall take effect in 60 days and shall apply to all  
28 rules and regulations proposed thereafter.