

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 505

Session of  
1979

INTRODUCED BY HAGER, STAUFFER, HOWARD, MOORE, ANDREWS,  
JUBELIRER, DWYER, HOPPER, KUSSE, SNYDER, BELL, LOEPER,  
O'CONNELL, HESS, GREENLEAF, TILGHMAN, MANBECK, CORMAN, GEKAS,  
PRICE, PECORA AND HOLL, MARCH 20, 1979

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 20, 1979

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 7, 1923 (P.L.158, No.119), entitled "An  
2 act creating a Legislative Reference Bureau; providing for  
3 the election of a director by the General Assembly;  
4 designating the officers and employes of such bureau,  
5 defining their duties; fixing their salaries; abolishing the  
6 present Legislative Reference Bureau; and making an  
7 appropriation," further providing for the bureau and making  
8 certain repeals.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. The title and section 2, act of May 7, 1923  
12 (P.L.158, No.119), entitled "An act creating a Legislative  
13 Reference Bureau; providing for the election of a director by  
14 the General Assembly; designating the officers and employes of  
15 such bureau, defining their duties; fixing their salaries;  
16 abolishing the present Legislative Reference Bureau; and making  
17 an appropriation," are amended to read:

AN ACT

18  
19 Creating a Legislative Reference Bureau[; providing for the  
20 election of a director by the General Assembly] and a

1     Legislative Reference Bureau Supervising Committee;  
2     designating the officers and employes of such bureau,  
3     defining their duties; fixing their salaries; abolishing the  
4     present Legislative Reference Bureau; and making an  
5     appropriation.

6     Section 2. [The Legislative Reference Bureau shall be in  
7     charge of a director, who shall be elected, as soon as may be  
8     after the passage of this act and biennially thereafter before  
9     the first day of February, each odd-numbered year, by the Senate  
10    and House of Representatives in joint session. The Director of  
11    the present Legislative Reference Bureau in office at the time  
12    of the approval of this act shall, until an election is held  
13    under this act, hold the office of Director of the Legislative  
14    Reference Bureau created by this act, subject to removal by the  
15    General Assembly.]

16    (a) There is hereby created the Legislative Reference Bureau  
17    Supervising Committee which shall consist of the President pro  
18    tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
19    Representatives, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the Minority  
20    Leader of the House of Representatives, the Attorney General or  
21    his designee, the President of the Pennsylvania Bar Association  
22    or his designee, the Court Administrator of Pennsylvania or his  
23    designee. Each such officer of the Senate or the House of  
24    Representatives may designate another member of the respective  
25    Houses to be a member of the committee in their stead or to act  
26    temporarily on behalf of such officer. Members of the committee  
27    shall serve during each regular session of the General Assembly  
28    and shall continue as members until the third Tuesday in January  
29    of the next odd-numbered year and until their respective  
30    successors shall qualify provided in the case of members of the

1 General Assembly that they continue to be members of the Senate  
2 or House of Representatives. The committee shall have a  
3 continuing existence and may meet and conduct its business at  
4 any place within the Commonwealth during the sessions of the  
5 Legislature or any recess thereof and in the interim between  
6 sessions. Four members of the committee shall constitute a  
7 quorum and an affirmative vote of four members of the committee  
8 shall be necessary to pass on any matter requiring committee  
9 action.

10 (b) The Legislative Reference Bureau Supervising Committee  
11 shall supervise all the affairs of the Legislative Reference  
12 Bureau and it shall select a director who is learned in the law,  
13 an assistant director, who is learned in the law and who is a  
14 skilled bill drafter. The committee shall provide for the  
15 selection of a trained librarian and such attorneys-at-law,  
16 clerks, secretaries, stenographers, typists, messengers and  
17 other employes as it deems necessary for such periods and on  
18 such terms as it deems advantageous to conduct the work of the  
19 bureau and it shall provide for their qualifications and duties.  
20 The committee shall fix the number and establish a compensation  
21 plan for the director and all such employes within the limits of  
22 the appropriation made by the General Assembly. The assistant  
23 director shall perform the duties of the director in the case of  
24 a vacancy in said office or in the case of the absence or  
25 inability of the director to act and he shall also perform such  
26 other duties as may be assigned to him by the Legislative  
27 Reference Bureau Supervising Committee or the director.

28 Section 2. Sections 4 and 5 of the act are repealed.

29 Section 3. (a) The present Director of the Legislative  
30 Reference Bureau in office at the time of the approval of this

1 act shall remain in office for a period of 30 days during which  
2 such time the Legislative Reference Bureau Supervising Committee  
3 shall select a director from those applicants who submit their  
4 qualifications to the committee for consideration.

5 (b) Any employe appointed on or before January 1, 1979 shall  
6 be retained as an employe and shall only be discharged for  
7 cause. The appointments of any other employe shall terminate 60  
8 days after the effective date of this act unless the committee  
9 shall act to reappoint such employe within 45 days of the  
10 effective date of this act.

11 Section 4. Section 49, act of January 10, 1968 (1967  
12 P.L.925, No.417), referred to as the Legislative Officers and  
13 Employes Law, is repealed.

14 Section 5. This act shall take effect immediately.