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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**  
**No. 2482** Session of  
1988

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INTRODUCED BY SWEET, DeLUCA, GAMBLE AND DUFFY, MAY 23, 1988

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, MAY 23, 1988

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), entitled  
2 "An act concerning townships of the first class; amending,  
3 revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating  
4 thereto," further providing for the time for holding  
5 organizational meetings.

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

8 Section 1. Section 701 of the act of June 24, 1931  
9 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as The First Class Township Code,  
10 reenacted and amended May 27, 1949 (P.L.1955, No.569) and  
11 amended May 29, 1968 (P.L.131, No.69), is amended to read:

12 Section 701. Organization; Failure to Organize.--The  
13 township commissioners shall organize on the first Monday of  
14 January of each even-numbered year. If the first Monday is a  
15 legal holiday the meeting shall be held the first day following.  
16 They shall assemble for such purpose at their place of meeting  
17 at [seven-thirty o'clock] a time convenient to the governing  
18 body, post meridian. Until otherwise designated by ordinance,  
19 the place of meeting shall be the oldest polling place in the

1 township.

2 The board shall organize by the election of one of their  
3 number as president and one as a vice-president, who, as long as  
4 they continue to be commissioners, shall hold office until their  
5 successors are elected and qualified. The president, or, in his  
6 absence, the vice-president, shall preside at all meetings of  
7 the board, and perform such other duties as are specified in  
8 this act or which may be prescribed by ordinance.

9 If a majority of the commissioners shall not attend at the  
10 organization meeting, those present may adjourn the meeting from  
11 day to day until a majority attend.

12 If the township commissioners of any township shall fail to  
13 organize within ten days from the time prescribed by this  
14 section, the court of quarter sessions, upon the petition of ten  
15 registered electors, verified by the affidavit of one of the  
16 petitioners, shall issue a rule upon the delinquent  
17 commissioners to show cause why their seats should not be  
18 declared vacant. The rule shall be returnable not less than five  
19 days from the time of its issue, and after hearing, the court  
20 may declare the seats of any delinquent vacant, and appoint  
21 others in their stead to hold office for the respective  
22 unexpired terms.

23 The meeting under this section may be considered as a regular  
24 monthly meeting for the transaction of such business as comes  
25 before it. The first order of business at this meeting shall be  
26 organization of the board. Any action taken or business  
27 transacted other than organization of the commissioners as a  
28 board at any organization meeting held prior to the effective  
29 date of this amending act, which is invalid for the reason that  
30 the action was taken or business transacted at an organization

1 meeting, is hereby validated and confirmed.

2 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.