

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 146 Session of
1991

INTRODUCED BY PESCI, ITKIN, E. Z. TAYLOR, NOYE, TRELLO,
COLAIZZO, STEELMAN, BELFANTI, HESS, TIGUE AND VEON,
JANUARY 29, 1991

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
MARCH 13, 1991

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), entitled "An
2 act concerning townships of the second class; and amending,
3 revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating
4 thereto," further providing for the jurisdiction of second
5 class township supervisors over its police force.

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

8 Section 1. ~~Subsection A of section~~ SECTION 590 of the act of <—
9 May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township
10 Code, reenacted and amended July 10, 1947 (P.L.1481, No.567),
11 amended July 2, 1953 (P.L.354, No.83) AND JUNE 29, 1965 <—
12 (P.L.152, NO.102), is amended to read:

13 Section 590. [Petition for Appointment of Police; Contracts <—
14 for Police Services.--A. Upon the petition of not less than
15 twenty-five registered electors or taxpayers of any township, or
16 of two or more adjacent townships, representing that the safety
17 of the citizens and the security of property make it necessary
18 for the appointment of one or more policemen, the supervisors of

1 such township or townships shall consider said petition, and, if
2 satisfied of the reasonableness and propriety of said
3 application, shall appoint one or more registered electors, who
4 shall be residents of the Commonwealth, to act as policemen, and
5 to serve at the will of said supervisors.

6 The supervisors of such township or townships ~~shall supervise~~ <—
7 ~~its police officers, shall have the authority to swear in police~~
8 ~~officers and~~ shall fix the number of policemen, the compensation
9 of such policemen, and shall limit the term of service of said
10 policemen as it may deem proper. Where such policemen are
11 appointed for two or more townships, the supervisors of such
12 townships shall fix the amount of compensation which shall be
13 paid by each of such townships. Such compensation shall be paid
14 from the general township fund. The supervisors of the township
15 or townships may assign any policeman, with his consent, to
16 undergo a course of training at any training school for
17 policemen established and made available by the State or Federal
18 Government, and may provide for the payment by the township of
19 his expenses or a part thereof while in attendance in such
20 training school.] <—

21 * * *

22 CREATING OR DISBANDING POLICE FORCE.--A. THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP <—
23 SUPERVISORS MAY, BY RESOLUTION: (1) CREATE OR DISBAND A POLICE
24 FORCE WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP, OR (2) UPON THE PETITION OF NOT LESS
25 THAN TWENTY-FIVE REGISTERED ELECTORS OR TAXPAYERS OF THE
26 TOWNSHIP, APPOINT POLICE OFFICERS.

27 B. THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE
28 ORGANIZATION AND SUPERVISION, AND DETERMINE THE NUMBER AND THE
29 COMPENSATION OF SUCH POLICE OFFICERS. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
30 OF TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO SWEAR IN

1 POLICE OFFICERS. THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS MAY ASSIGN
2 ANY POLICE OFFICER TO UNDERGO A COURSE OF TRAINING AT ANY
3 TRAINING SCHOOL FOR POLICE OFFICERS ESTABLISHED OR MADE
4 AVAILABLE BY THE FEDERAL OR STATE GOVERNMENT, AND PROVIDE FOR
5 PAYMENT OF THE OFFICER'S EXPENSES WHILE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE
6 TRAINING SCHOOL.

7 [B.] C. ANY TOWNSHIP MAY CONTRACT WITH ANY ADJACENT TOWNSHIP
8 OF THE FIRST OR SECOND CLASS, OR WITH ANY BOROUGH OR CITY, AND
9 MAY EXPEND MONEYS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF
10 SECURING THE SERVICES WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF THE POLICE OF SUCH
11 ADJACENT TOWNSHIP, BOROUGH OR CITY. WHEN ANY SUCH CONTRACT HAS
12 BEEN ENTERED INTO, THE POLICE OF THE EMPLOYING TOWNSHIP, BOROUGH
13 OR CITY SHALL HAVE ALL THE POWERS AND AUTHORITY CONFERRED BY LAW
14 ON TOWNSHIP POLICE IN THE TERRITORY OF THE TOWNSHIP WHICH HAS
15 CONTRACTED TO SECURE SUCH POLICE SERVICE.

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