

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2303 Session of
1996

INTRODUCED BY LLOYD, BELARDI, STABACK, BOSCOLA, ROONEY, SHANER,
COY, KUKOVICH, READSHAW, TIGUE, LUCYK, SCHRODER, NAILOR,
WAUGH, LEH, PESCI, M. COHEN, HENNESSEY, KAISER, SCRIMENTI,
BAKER, MERRY, MICOZZIE, THOMAS, B. SMITH, CARONE, FARGO,
NICKOL, RAYMOND, SAYLOR, TRUE, ROBINSON AND LEDERER,
JANUARY 19, 1996

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR RELATIONS, JANUARY 19, 1996

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 13, 1915 (P.L.286, No.177), entitled, as
2 amended, "An act to provide for the health, safety, and
3 welfare of minors: By forbidding their employment or work in
4 certain establishments and occupations, and under certain
5 specified ages; by restricting their hours of labor, and
6 regulating certain conditions of their employment; by
7 requiring employment certificates or transferable work
8 permits for certain minors, and prescribing the kinds
9 thereof, and the rules for the issuance, reissuance, filing,
10 return, and recording of the same; by providing that the
11 Industrial Board shall, under certain conditions, determine
12 and declare whether certain occupations are within the
13 prohibitions of this act; requiring certain abstracts and
14 notices to be posted; providing for the enforcement of this
15 act by the Secretary of Labor and Industry, the
16 representative of school districts, and police officers; and
17 defining the procedure in prosecutions thereunder, and
18 establishing certain presumptions in relation thereto;
19 providing for the issuance of special permits for minors
20 engaging in the entertainment and related fields; providing
21 penalties for the violation of the provisions thereof; and
22 repealing all acts or parts of acts inconsistent therewith,"
23 providing for volunteer fire company activities.

24 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
25 hereby enacts as follows:

26 Section 1. Section 7.3 of the act of May 13, 1915 (P.L.286,

1 No.177), known as the Child Labor Law, amended or added June 27,
2 1973 (P.L.70, No.30) and May 20, 1976 (P.L.130, No.57), is
3 amended to read:

4 Section 7.3. Minor Volunteer Fire Company, Volunteer
5 Ambulance Corps, Volunteer Rescue Squads and Volunteer Forest
6 Fire Crew Member Activities.--(a) Minors who are members of a
7 volunteer fire company and volunteer forest fire crew may
8 participate in training and fire-fighting activities as follows:

9 (1) Drivers of trucks, ambulances or other official fire
10 vehicles must be eighteen years of age.

11 (2) Minors sixteen and seventeen years of age who have
12 successfully completed a course of training equal to the
13 standards for basic fire-fighting established by the Department
14 of Education and the Department of Environmental Resources, may
15 engage in fire-fighting activities provided that such minors are
16 under the direct supervision and control of the fire chief, an
17 experienced line officer or a designated forest fire warden.

18 (3) No person under eighteen years of age shall be permitted
19 to (i) operate an aerial ladder, aerial platform or hydraulic
20 jack, (ii) use rubber electrical gloves, insulated wire gloves,
21 insulated wire cutters, life nets or acetylene cutting units,
22 (iii) operate the pumps of any fire vehicle while at the scene
23 of a fire, or (iv) enter a burning structure.

24 (b) The activities of minors under sixteen years of age
25 shall be limited to:

26 (1) Training.

27 (2) First aid.

28 (3) Clean-up service at the scene of a fire, outside the
29 structure, after the fire has been declared by the fire official
30 in charge to be under control.

1 (4) Coffee wagon and food services.

2 (c) In no case, however, shall minors under sixteen years of
3 age be permitted to:

4 (1) Operate high pressure hose lines, except during training
5 activities;

6 (2) Ascend ladders, except during training activities; or

7 (3) Enter a burning structure.

8 (d) All other activities by minors who are members of a
9 volunteer fire company or a volunteer forest fire crewman shall
10 be permissible unless specifically prohibited by this act.

11 (e) No rule or regulation of any State agency concerning
12 minor volunteer firemen shall be adopted or promulgated except
13 by amendment to this act.

14 (f) All other existing provisions of this act and the
15 regulations promulgated thereunder affecting the employment of
16 minors shall be applicable in all cases, including the
17 requirements for employment certificates and the limitations on
18 hours of employment: Provided, That a minor sixteen or seventeen
19 years of age who is a member of a volunteer fire company who
20 answers a fire call while lawfully employed and continues in
21 such service until excused by the one acting as chief of that
22 fire company shall not be considered in violation of this act
23 for any part of the period so occupied[.]: And further provided,
24 That a minor who is fourteen or fifteen years of age, who is a
25 member of a volunteer fire company and who performs the training
26 or fire-fighting activities permitted for such minor under the
27 provisions of this act between the hours of seven o'clock in the
28 evening and eleven o'clock in the evening before a day of school
29 with written parental consent shall not be considered in
30 violation of this act.

1 (g) Any minor who is a member of a volunteer ambulance corps
2 or rescue squad may participate in training and any other
3 activity as provided by regulations adopted by the Department of
4 Labor and Industry but in any case, drivers of all ambulances or
5 other official ambulance corps or rescue squad vehicles must be
6 eighteen years of age.

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