

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 689 Session of 1997

INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, WALKO, TIGUE, SEMMEL, B. SMITH, PLATTS, RUBLEY, M. N. WRIGHT, SHANER, BROWNE, BAKER, GEIST, STURLA, SATHER, RAMOS, ITKIN, STERN, BARD, BOSCOLA, FARGO, BROWN, EGOLF, E. Z. TAYLOR AND ROSS, MARCH 10, 1997

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, FEBRUARY 10, 1998

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for obstructing emergency
3 services.

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

6 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 5112. Obstructing emergency services.

9 (a) Offense defined.--

10 (1) A person commits a summary offense if he, through <—
11 his intentional action, A PERSON COMMITS A SUMMARY OFFENSE IF <—
12 HE KNOWINGLY impedes, obstructs or interferes with emergency
13 services personnel performing a rescue, providing emergency <—
14 medical services to an injured victim or performing
15 firefighting activities.

16 (2) A person commits a misdemeanor of the third degree <—
17 if he enters a secured emergency zone without first obtaining

1 ~~permission from the official in charge of the emergency~~  
2 ~~services personnel which established the zone.~~

3 ~~(b) Emergency zones. Emergency services personnel are~~  
4 ~~authorized to establish secured emergency zones in order to~~  
5 ~~insure the efficient rendering of the services being provided.~~

6 ~~(c) (B) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following~~ <—  
7 ~~words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this~~  
8 ~~subsection:~~

9 ~~"Emergency medical services." The services utilized in~~  
10 ~~responding to the needs of an individual for immediate medical~~  
11 ~~care in order to prevent loss of life or the aggravation of~~  
12 ~~physiological or psychological illness or injury.~~

13 ~~"Emergency services personnel." Police, firefighters,~~  
14 ~~licensed physicians, registered nurses, emergency medical~~  
15 ~~technicians and technician-paramedics and first responders.~~

16 ~~"Rescue." The act of extricating persons from entrapment or~~ <—  
17 ~~dangerous situations which pose the imminent threat of death or~~  
18 ~~serious bodily injury.~~

19 ~~"Secured emergency zone." A clearly designated area~~  
20 ~~surrounding victims in need of rescue or emergency medical~~  
21 ~~services. The term shall also include the area surrounding a~~  
22 ~~fire.~~

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