

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 780 Session of
2003

INTRODUCED BY SEMMEL, TIGUE, R. MILLER, SOLOBAY, PAYNE, ADOLPH, ALLEN, BAKER, BEBKO-JONES, BROWNE, BUNT, CAPPELLI, CAWLEY, CORRIGAN, COY, CURRY, FICHTER, FREEMAN, GEORGE, HARHAI, HARPER, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HESS, HORSEY, JAMES, LAUGHLIN, LEACH, MARSICO, MELIO, S. MILLER, PIPPY, READSHAW, SAINATO, SAYLOR, STABACK, STERN, E. Z. TAYLOR, WASHINGTON, WEBER AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 10, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, MARCH 10, 2003

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 7, 1990 (P.L.639, No.165), entitled
2 "An act establishing a Statewide hazardous material safety
3 program; creating the Hazardous Material Response Fund;
4 providing for the creation of Hazardous Material Emergency
5 Response Accounts in each county; further providing for the
6 powers and duties of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management
7 Agency, of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council and
8 of the counties and local governments; imposing obligations
9 on certain handlers of hazardous materials; and imposing
10 penalties," further providing for certified hazardous
11 material response teams.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. Section 209(a) of the act of December 7, 1990
15 (P.L.639, No.165), known as the Hazardous Material Emergency
16 Planning and Response Act, amended December 20, 2000 (P.L.885,
17 No.121), is amended to read:

18 Section 209. Certified hazardous material response teams.

19 (a) General rule.--The council shall establish a program for

1 certifying hazardous material response teams, setting standards
2 for training, equipment, safety, operations and administration
3 of the teams. The certification program shall include, but not
4 be limited to:

5 (1) Standards for certifying response teams with several
6 preparedness levels patterned after levels established by the
7 United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration
8 at 29 CFR Part 1910.120.

9 (2) Reviewing existing hazardous material training and
10 certification programs to establish specific procedures for
11 crediting that training and certification under the program
12 established by this section.

13 (3) Reviewing the existing standards for the training
14 and equipment needed to prepare regional hazardous material
15 organizations to respond to biological and chemical
16 emergencies that are a result of a terrorist incident.

17 * * *

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