

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1623 Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY MANN, ARGALL, BARRAR, BOYD, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI,  
DALLY, GEIST, GERGELY, GRUCELA, HARRIS, HERSHEY, HUTCHINSON,  
KAUFFMAN, W. KELLER, METCALFE, O'NEILL, PHILLIPS, READSHAW,  
RUBLEY, SIPTROTH, SHANER, STABACK, STERN, THOMAS, TIGUE AND  
WOJNAROSKI, JUNE 3, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 3, 2005

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 13, 1883 (P.L.112, No.99), entitled "An  
2 act to abolish the contract system in the prisons and  
3 reformatory institutions of the State of Pennsylvania, and to  
4 regulate the wages of the inmates," further providing for  
5 convicts to receive wages.

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

8 Section 1. Section 4 of the act of June 13, 1883 (P.L.112,  
9 No.99), entitled "An act to abolish the contract system in the  
10 prisons and reformatory institutions of the State of  
11 Pennsylvania, and to regulate the wages of the inmates," is  
12 amended to read:

13 Section 4. Convicts to receive wages

14 All convicts under control of the State and county officers,  
15 and all inmates of reformatory institutions engaged in  
16 manufacturing articles for general consumption[,] or other forms  
17 of labor as established by the prison board under the act of May  
18 25, 1907 (P.L.247, No.191) entitled "An act authorizing the

1 employment of male prisoners of the jails, and workhouses of  
2 this Commonwealth upon the public highways of the several  
3 counties, and regulating the same; and providing for the  
4 establishment of Prison Boards, the purchase of material and  
5 tools, and employment of deputies, at the expense of the proper  
6 county, and a penalty for the escape of prisoners while employed  
7 outside of said jails, workhouses," shall receive quarterly  
8 wages equal to the amount of their earnings, to be fixed from  
9 time to time by the authorities of the institution, from which  
10 board, lodging and clothing, and the costs of trial shall be  
11 deducted and the balance paid to their families or dependents;  
12 in case none such appear, the amount shall be paid to the  
13 convict at the expiration of the term of imprisonment. In no  
14 case shall a convict receive wages for any form of labor not  
15 classified by the prison board.

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