

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 973 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY MACKERETH, R. MILLER, BARRAR, BELFANTI, BOYD,  
DePASQUALE, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FREEMAN, GEIST, GINGRICH,  
HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, JAMES, KIRKLAND, KORTZ, LEACH,  
MANDERINO, MARSICO, MURT, MYERS, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, RAPP,  
SCAVELLO, STERN, STURLA, WALKO, WATSON, WHEATLEY, YOUNGBLOOD,  
THOMAS AND D. O'BRIEN, MARCH 29, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 29, 2007

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 22, 1978 (P.L.1166, No.274),  
2 entitled "An act establishing the Pennsylvania Commission on  
3 Crime and Delinquency, providing for its powers and duties  
4 establishing several advisory committees within the  
5 commission and providing for their powers and duties," adding  
6 a definition; and establishing the Center for Evidence-based  
7 Crime Prevention Research and its powers and duties.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 1 of the act of November 22, 1978  
11 (P.L.1166, No.274), referred to as the Pennsylvania Commission  
12 on Crime and Delinquency Law, is amended by adding a definition  
13 to read:

14 Section 1. Definitions.

15 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
16 have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the  
17 meanings given to them in this section:

18 "Center." The Center for Evidence-based Crime Prevention

1 Research established in section 7.3.

2 \* \* \*

3 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

4 Section 7.3. Center for Evidence-based Crime Prevention  
5 Research.

6 (a) Legislative policy.--The General Assembly finds and  
7 declares as follows:

8 (1) Commonwealth law has directed the Pennsylvania  
9 Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and in particular the  
10 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee and the  
11 Targeted Community Revitalization and Crime Prevention  
12 Advisory Committee, to conduct research and design and  
13 promote programs aimed at crime and violence prevention.

14 (2) Current funding of these efforts has been  
15 accomplished through several appropriation line items.

16 (3) The establishment of a center for evidence-based  
17 crime prevention research would foster an ongoing program to  
18 investigate and evaluate cost-effective crime and violence  
19 prevention by centralizing and consolidating those efforts  
20 with a dedicated staff and physical space to accomplish those  
21 ends.

22 (4) The existence of the center would ensure that future  
23 administrations and future General Assemblies provide due  
24 consideration to funding streams for evidence-based research  
25 regarding crime prevention and intervention strategies.

26 (b) Establishment.--The Center for Evidence-based Crime  
27 Prevention Research is established within the commission.

28 (c) Staff.--The center shall consist of a director, a  
29 researcher and such additional staff as the commission shall  
30 deem proper.

1     (d) Powers and duties.--The center shall have the power, and  
2 its duty shall be, to:

3         (1) Research and evaluate, monitor and promote programs  
4 to prevent crime and juvenile delinquency, as well as to  
5 reduce and prevent violence.

6         (2) Determine the cost effectiveness of programs under  
7 paragraph (1).

8         (3) Assist the commission with its powers and duties,  
9 including, but not limited to, its functions under section  
10 3(1), (6), (6.1), (6.2), (6.3), (7) and (8).

11         (4) Assist the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency  
12 Prevention Committee with its powers and duties, including,  
13 but not limited to, its functions under section 7(1), (3),  
14 (4), (6), (8) and (9).

15         (5) Assist the Targeted Community Revitalization and  
16 Crime Prevention Advisory Committee with its powers and  
17 duties, including, but not limited to, its functions under  
18 section 7.2(1), (3) and (4).

19     Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.