
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 542 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, WASHINGTON, RAFFERTY, COSTA, BOSCOLA,
STACK, RHOADES, O'PAKE, GORDNER, ERICKSON, TOMLINSON, MUSTO,
FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE AND KITCHEN, MARCH 15, 2007

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, MARCH 15, 2007

AN ACT

1 Establishing multijurisdictional law enforcement drug task
2 forces; and providing for the powers and duties of the
3 Pennsylvania State Police.

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

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Drug Task
8 Forces Act.

9 Section 2. Drug task forces established.

10 (a) Purposes.--The Pennsylvania State Police shall establish
11 multijurisdictional law enforcement drug task forces with the
12 following purposes:

13 (1) Preventing the entry of illegal drugs into and
14 preventing the movement of illegal drugs from place to place
15 in Pennsylvania.

16 (2) Removing violent felons, illegal firearms, including
17 straw purchases, and illegal drugs from designated target
18 urban neighborhoods.

1 (b) Powers and duties.--The task force shall:

2 (1) Conduct investigations focused on preventing the:

3 (i) Entry of drugs into Pennsylvania through
4 seaports, airports, train and bus stations, highways and
5 other points of entry.

6 (ii) Movement of illegal drugs from place to place
7 in Pennsylvania, including, but not limited to, the use
8 of the interstate highway system to transport the illegal
9 drugs.

10 (2) Work with the United States Postal Service and
11 private parcel post companies to prevent the shipment of
12 illegal drugs into and the movement of illegal drugs from
13 place to place in Pennsylvania.

14 (3) Designate target urban neighborhoods for a
15 comprehensive crime-fighting program to remove violent
16 felons, illegal firearms and illegal drugs that includes
17 intelligence gathering, arrests and highly visible saturation
18 patrols.

19 (4) Assist other law enforcement agencies in the
20 prosecution of crimes uncovered through investigations
21 conducted by the task forces.

22 Section 3. Drug task force membership.

23 The Pennsylvania State Police shall enter into agreements
24 with the Office of Attorney General and other law enforcement
25 agencies both within and without Pennsylvania, to serve on the
26 task forces and to cooperate with the Pennsylvania State Police
27 in investigating activities relating to the entry of illegal
28 drugs into and the movement of illegal drugs from place to place
29 in Pennsylvania and in removing violent felons, illegal firearms
30 and illegal drugs from designated neighborhoods.

1 Section 4. Powers and duties of Pennsylvania State Police.

2 The Pennsylvania State Police shall have the following powers
3 and duties:

4 (1) Establish and supervise multijurisdictional law
5 enforcement drug task forces as provided for in sections 2
6 and 3.

7 (2) Coordinate the activities of the drug task forces
8 with the activities of other investigative and prosecutory
9 law enforcement agencies.

10 (3) Direct and supervise the formulation of drug task
11 force policies and operating procedures.

12 (4) Provide any necessary training for drug task force
13 members to encourage task force operation as a coordinated
14 unit.

15 (5) Administer any Federal, State, local or private
16 appropriations or grant funds made available for the
17 operation of the drug task forces.

18 Section 5. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect immediately.