## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE BILL No. 745 Session of 2007

## INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, RAFFERTY, O'PAKE, EARLL, TARTAGLIONE, ERICKSON, BOSCOLA AND RHOADES, APRIL 10, 2007

### REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, APRIL 10, 2007

#### AN ACT

| 1<br>2<br>3 | Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the<br>Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing, in<br>special damages, for actions on insurance policies. |
|-------------|---|
| 4           | The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  |
| 5           | hereby enacts as follows:   |
| б           | Section 1. Section 8371 of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania   |
| 7           | Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:   |
| 8           | § 8371. Actions on insurance policies.  |
| 9           | In an action arising under an insurance policy, if the  |
| 10          | [court] <u>trier of fact</u> finds that the insurer has acted in bad  |
| 11          | faith toward the insured, the [court] trier of fact may take all  |
| 12          | of the following actions:   |
| 13          | (1) Award interest on the amount of the claim from the  |
| 14          | date the claim was made by the insured in an amount equal to  |
| 15          | the prime rate of interest plus 3%.   |
| 16          | (2) Award punitive damages against the insurer.   |
| 17          | (3) Assess court costs and attorney fees against the  |
| 18          | insurer.  |

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