

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1836 Session of  
2009

INTRODUCED BY LONGIETTI, BELFANTI, CALTAGIRONE, CREIGHTON,  
CUTLER, DENLINGER, HALUSKA, HARKINS, HORNAMAN, JOSEPHS,  
KOTIK, LENTZ, MCGEEHAN, MOUL, MURT, K. SMITH, WHITE AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, JULY 8, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JULY 8, 2009

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in special damages,  
3 further providing for actions on insurance policies.

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

6 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] trier of fact 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

1 insurer.

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