
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 777 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY STACK, KITCHEN, FONTANA AND ORIE, MARCH 7, 2011

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, MARCH
7, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 14, 1919 (P.L.18, No.9), entitled "An
2 act conferring upon judge advocates of the United States Army
3 the powers of notaries public, declaring the effect thereof;
4 validating notarial acts heretofore performed by judge
5 advocates, and declaring the effect thereof," providing for
6 applicability, fees, signature and title as prima facia
7 evidence and for definitions.

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

10 Section 1. Section 2 of the act of March 14, 1919 (P.L.18,
11 No.9), entitled "An act conferring upon judge advocates of the
12 United States Army the powers of notaries public, declaring the
13 effect thereof; validating notarial acts heretofore performed by
14 judge advocates, and declaring the effect thereof," is amended
15 to read:

16 Section 2. (a) All notarial acts heretofore performed by
17 military judge advocates [of the United States Army] and
18 paralegal noncommissioned officers in the administration of
19 oaths, the execution and acknowledgment of legal instruments,
20 the attestation of documents, and all other similar notarial

1 acts, are hereby validated and made legal, and such acts shall
2 be received in evidence in the courts of the Commonwealth and
3 for entry of record, in the like manner, and with the same force
4 and effect, as provided in section one of this act.

5 (b) Subsection (a) shall apply to military judge advocates
6 and paralegal noncommissioned officers serving on active duty
7 under any authority of 10 U.S.C. (relating to armed forces), as
8 well as Pennsylvania National Guard judge advocates and
9 paralegal noncommissioned officers serving in a duty status
10 under any authority of 32 U.S.C. (relating to national guard).

11 (c) No fee may be paid to or received by any person for the
12 performance of a notarial act authorized in this section.

13 (d) The signature of a person acting as a notary and the
14 title of that person's offices are prima facia evidence that the
15 signature is genuine, that the person holds the designated title
16 and that the person is authorized to perform a notarial act.

17 (e) The term "duty status" shall include any periods of
18 drill and annual field training, completed under any authority
19 of 32 U.S.C., active State duty and other training services as
20 may be required under Federal or State law, regulation, or order
21 and includes travel to and from such duty.

22 (f) The term "paralegal noncommissioned officers" shall mean
23 enlisted military service members in the grade of E-5 or above,
24 who are fully qualified and are specifically assigned to a legal
25 military occupational specialty.

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