

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 429 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY WATSON, AUMENT, GINGRICH, MALONEY, MOUL, STEPHENS, YOUNGBLOOD, SCHLOSSBERG, HICKERNELL, MUNDY, ROCK, KORTZ, SACCONI, BARRAR, MAJOR, CUTLER, KAUFFMAN, O'NEILL, BAKER, SWANGER, MILLARD, COHEN, MILLER, FLECK, SAYLOR, C. HARRIS, CLYMER, MILNE, BENNINGHOFF, MURT, EVERETT, GIBBONS, TRUITT AND QUINN, FEBRUARY 8, 2013

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, MARCH 20, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further
3 providing for persons permitted to report suspected child
4 abuse.

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

7 Section 1. Section 6312 of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 6312. Persons ~~permitted~~ encouraged to report suspected
10 child abuse.

11 [In addition to those persons and officials required to
12 report suspected child abuse, any] (a) Reports by any person
13 permitted.--Any person may make [such] a report of suspected
14 child abuse, or cause a report to be made, if that person has
15 reasonable cause to suspect that a child is an abused child.

16 (b) Civil action for discrimination against person filing

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1 report.--Any person who, under this section, is permitted to  
2 report or cause a report of suspected child abuse to be made and  
3 who, in good faith, makes or causes the report to be made and,  
4 as a result thereof, is discharged from his employment or in any  
5 other manner is discriminated against with respect to  
6 compensation, hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of  
7 employment, may commence an action in the court of common pleas  
8 of the county in which the alleged unlawful discharge or  
9 discrimination occurred for appropriate relief. If the court  
10 finds that the person is an individual who, under this section,  
11 is permitted to report or cause a report of suspected child  
12 abuse to be made and who, in good faith, made or caused to be  
13 made a report of suspected child abuse and, as a result thereof,  
14 was discharged or discriminated against with respect to  
15 compensation, hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of  
16 employment, it may issue an order granting appropriate relief,  
17 including, but not limited to, reinstatement with back pay. The  
18 department may intervene in any action commenced under this  
19 subsection.

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