

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 221 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY CALTAGIRONE, YOUNGBLOOD, BISHOP, THOMAS, KILLION, RAPP, KOTIK, JAMES, SCHLOSSBERG, DAVIDSON, O'BRIEN, GRELL, HARHART, HARKINS, WATSON, SCHWEYER, MURT, GILLEN, GIBBONS, SAMUELSON, DEAN AND DAVIS, JANUARY 26, 2015

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, FEBRUARY 3, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) and 53
2 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
3 Statutes, in selection and retention of judicial officers,
4 further providing for continuing education requirement; and,
5 in municipal police education and training, further providing
6 for powers and duties of Municipal Police Officers' Education
7 and Training Commission.

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

10 Section 1. Section 3118(a) of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania
11 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

12 § 3118. Continuing education requirement.

13 (a) Magisterial district judges.--

14 (1) Every magisterial district judge shall complete a
15 continuing education program each year equivalent to not less
16 than 32 hours per year in such courses or programs as are
17 approved by the board~~]., including, but not limited to,~~ AT <--
18 LEAST EVERY SIX YEARS, THE PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE the
19 identification of mental illness and intellectual

1 disabilities and the availability of diversionary options for
2 individuals with mental illness or intellectual disabilities.

3 (2) If a magisterial district judge fails to meet these
4 continuing education requirements, such judge shall be
5 subject to suspension by the Supreme Court until such time as
6 evidence of compliance with such requirements is submitted by
7 the board, but in no event longer than six months at which
8 time the failure to meet the continuing education
9 requirements shall be grounds for the Supreme Court, after a
10 hearing, to declare a vacancy in that district.

11 * * *

12 Section 2. Section 2164 of Title 53 is amended by adding a
13 paragraph to read:

14 § 2164. Powers and duties of commission.

15 The powers and duties of the commission shall be as follows:

16 * * *

17 (1.1) To provide training for police officers with
18 respect to:

19 (i) Recognition of mental illness and intellectual
20 disabilities.

21 (ii) Proper techniques to interact with and de-
22 escalate individuals engaging in behavior indicative of
23 mental illness or intellectual disability.

24 (iii) Instruction on services available to
25 individuals with mental illness or intellectual
26 disabilities.

27 * * *

28 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.