
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1177 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY DeLUCA, ACOSTA, THOMAS, ENGLISH, TRUITT, STEPHENS,
SANKEY, DIAMOND, CRUZ AND McNEILL, MAY 11, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MAY 11, 2015

AN ACT

1 Prohibiting the use of sick time by public employees for
2 campaign activities.

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

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Sick Time
7 Abuse Prevention Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Campaign activities." Activities intended to influence the
13 outcome of an election for public office, including, but not
14 limited to:

15 (1) campaigning;

16 (2) canvassing;

17 (3) circulating nomination petitions or nomination
18 papers;

- (4) making telephone calls in an organized effort;
- (5) organizing or promoting events;
- (6) polling;
- (7) poll watching; and
- (8) typing, creating, copying, ordering, receiving or distributing brochures, flyers, signs or political literature of any kind.

"Public employee." Any person employed by a public employer. This term shall not include a contractor or an annuitant.

"Public employer." The Commonwealth or its political subdivisions, including school districts and any office, department, authority, board, agency, multistate agency, commission or other instrumentality which provides sick time for public employees.

"Sick time." Leave from employment designated for a public employee by a public employer for a time period when the public employee becomes too ill to work or must be absent from work for a valid sick-related reason, whether or not the public employee is compensated. The term shall include leave taken under the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-3, 29 U.S.C. § 2601 et seq.).

Section 3. Prohibited use of sick time.

A public employee may not use sick time to engage in campaign activities.

Section 4. Penalties.

Any person who violates section 3 commits a misdemeanor of the third degree and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

Section 5. Effective date.

1 This act shall take effect in 60 days.