
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2588 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY GALLOWAY, CORBIN, SCHLOSSBERG, ROE, YOUNGBLOOD,
J. McNEILL, HILL-EVANS, MURT, DAVIS, KIRKLAND, READSHAW,
DeLUCA, NEILSON, WATSON, M. QUINN AND GILLEN, AUGUST 7, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, AUGUST 7, 2018

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in sentencing, providing
3 for sentencing for offenses involving domestic violence in
4 the presence of a minor.

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

7 Section 1. Title 42 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 9720.8. Sentencing for offenses involving domestic violence
10 in the presence of a minor.

11 (a) Sentencing enhancement.--The Pennsylvania Commission on
12 Sentencing, in accordance with section 2154 (relating to
13 adoption of guidelines for sentencing), shall provide for a
14 sentence enhancement within its guidelines for an offense under
15 18 Pa.C.S. § 2701 (relating to simple assault) or 2702 (relating
16 to aggravated assault), specifying variations from the range of
17 sentences applicable based on such aggravating circumstances as
18 the assault was committed against a family or household member

1 and the defendant knew the crime was witnessed, either through
2 sight or sound, by a minor who is also a family or household
3 member of the defendant or the victim.

4 (b) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
5 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
6 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

7 "Family or household member." The term shall have the same
8 meaning as "family or household members" under 23 Pa.C.S. § 6102
9 (relating to definitions).

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