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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1126 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY RESCHENTHALER, ALLOWAY, ARGALL, BREWSTER,  
GREENLEAF, COSTA AND SCHWANK, APRIL 9, 2018

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REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, APRIL 9, 2018

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in selection and  
3 retention of judicial officers, further providing for  
4 continuing education requirement.

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

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

9 § 3118. Continuing education requirement.

10 (a) Magisterial district judges.--

11 (1) Every magisterial district judge shall complete a  
12 continuing education program each year equivalent to not less  
13 than 32 hours per year in such courses or programs as are  
14 approved by the board. At least every six years, the program  
15 shall include the identification of mental illness,  
16 intellectual disabilities and autism and the availability of  
17 diversionary options for individuals with mental illness,  
18 intellectual disabilities or autism. On a frequency as  
19 determined appropriate by the board, the program shall

1 include instruction on options available to indigent  
2 defendants for failure to pay court costs, fines, restitution  
3 or fees in summary cases.

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