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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1910 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS, KINSEY, HILL-EVANS, KIRKLAND,  
CALTAGIRONE, HARRIS, FRANKEL, CIRESI, T. DAVIS, FREEMAN,  
READSHAW, HOWARD, SHUSTERMAN, FITZGERALD, FIEDLER, ROZZI AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, OCTOBER 11, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, OCTOBER 11, 2019

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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 content of course of instruction and  
5 examination; and, in employees, further providing for powers  
6 and duties of commission.

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

9 Section 1. Section 3113(b) of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania  
10 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

11 § 3113. Content of course of instruction and examination.

12 \* \* \*

13 (b) Content of course.--The course of training and  
14 instruction shall not exceed four weeks in duration and shall  
15 consist of a minimum of 40 hours of class instruction in civil  
16 and criminal law, including evidence and procedure, summary  
17 proceedings, motor vehicles, the identification and reporting of  
18 suspected child abuse as defined in 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating  
19 to child protective services), court proceedings involving

1 children and courses in judicial ethics, in the case of all such  
2 officials except arraignment court magistrates, in which case  
3 the course of training shall consist of a minimum of 30 hours of  
4 class instruction in criminal law, search and seizure, arrest  
5 and bail practices and procedures, and except judges of the  
6 Traffic Court of Philadelphia, in which case the course of  
7 training shall consist of a minimum of 20 hours of class  
8 instruction in summary proceedings and laws relating to motor  
9 vehicles.

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

12 § 2164. Powers and duties of commission.

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

14 \* \* \*

15 (17) To train police officers with respect to:

16 (i) Recognizing child abuse.

17 (ii) The provisions regarding reporting suspected  
18 child abuse under 23 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to child  
19 protective services).

20 (iii) The efficacy of conducting forensic  
21 interviewing of victims of child abuse within the setting  
22 of a children's advocacy center.

23 As used in this paragraph, the terms "child abuse" and  
24 "children's advocacy center" shall have the meanings given to  
25 them in 23 Pa.C.S. § 6303 (relating to definitions).

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