
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2486 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY WHITE, FARRY, KAUFER, STEPHENS, TOMLINSON, HILL-
EVANS, THOMAS, STAATS, T. DAVIS, DRISCOLL, CIRESI, STRUZZI,
DeLUCA, ROZZI, READSHAW, MERSKI AND WARREN, JULY 1, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, JULY 1, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), entitled "An
2 act defining the liability of an employer to pay damages for
3 injuries received by an employe in the course of employment;
4 establishing an elective schedule of compensation; providing
5 procedure for the determination of liability and compensation
6 thereunder; and prescribing penalties," in interpretation and
7 definitions, further providing for the definition of
8 occupational disease.

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

11 Section 1. Section 108 of the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736,
12 No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, is amended by
13 adding a subsection to read:

14 Section 108. The term "occupational disease," as used in
15 this act, shall mean only the following diseases.

16 * * *

17 (s) The novel coronavirus as identified in the proclamation
18 of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,
19 published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of
20 the state of disaster emergency in the occupations of

1 professional and volunteer firefighters, volunteer ambulance
2 corps personnel, volunteer rescue and lifesaving squad
3 personnel, emergency medical services personnel and paramedics,
4 Pennsylvania State Police officers, police officers requiring
5 certification under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 (relating to employees),
6 parole agents employed by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation
7 and Parole, county probation officers, deputy sheriffs and
8 deputy coroners, Commonwealth and county correctional employes
9 and forensic security employes of the Department of Human
10 Services having duties, including care, custody and control of
11 inmates involving exposure to such disease. A positive test for
12 infection with the novel coronavirus in any of these occupations
13 shall establish a presumption that the disease is an
14 occupational disease within the meaning of this act, but this
15 presumption may not be conclusive and may be rebutted.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.