THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2650 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY MURT, ROZZI, HANBIDGE, MULLERY, STEPHENS, McNEILL, DONATUCCI, KIM, MILLARD, SANCHEZ, POLINCHOCK, MIZGORSKI, GALLOWAY, DeLUCA, McCARTER, ROEBUCK, SCHLEGEL CULVER, CONKLIN AND YOUNGBLOOD, JULY 1, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, JULY 1, 2020

AN ACT

- 1 Establishing a Statewide registry of caregivers who abuse
- individuals with disabilities or special needs; and imposing
- duties on the Department of Human Services.
- 4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 5 hereby enacts as follows:
- 6 Section 1. Short title.
- 7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Abusive
- 8 Caregiver Registry Act.
- 9 Section 2. Definitions.
- 10 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 11 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 12 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 13 "Caregiver." An individual who has a legal or contractual
- 14 duty to provide services for the care, custody or supervision of
- 15 an individual with a disability or special needs.
- 16 "Department." The Department of Human Services of the
- 17 Commonwealth.

- 1 "Registry." The Statewide Registry of Abusive Caregivers
- 2 established by this act.
- 3 Section 3. Statewide Registry of Abusive Caregivers.
- 4 (a) Establishment. -- The department shall establish and
- 5 maintain a Statewide registry of caregivers who have been
- 6 charged and caregivers who have been convicted with an offense
- 7 that involves the abuse or neglect of an individual with a
- 8 disability or special needs. The registry shall:
- 9 (1) Be a complete and systematic index of all records
- 10 that relate to such charges and convictions.
- 11 (2) Be composed of an electronic database and digitized
- 12 records.
- 13 (3) Be able to communicate with abusive caregiver
- registries established in other jurisdictions.
- 15 (4) Consist of such information from records as
- determined by the department.
- 17 (b) Cooperation. -- There shall be cooperation between the
- 18 Pennsylvania State Police, State and county correctional
- 19 institutions, the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole,
- 20 the county office of probation and parole, any court with
- 21 jurisdiction over a caregiver that has been charged or convicted
- 22 with an offense that involves the abuse or neglect of an
- 23 individual with a disability or special needs, the chief
- 24 juvenile probation officer of the court, juvenile probation and
- 25 parole and Commonwealth agencies to ensure that the information
- 26 set forth in subsection (a) is provided and placed in the
- 27 registry.
- 28 (c) Confidentiality. -- The registry may not disclose the name
- 29 or identifying information of an individual with a disability or
- 30 special needs.

- 1 (d) Access.--Except for information prohibited from
- 2 disclosure under subsection (c), the department shall post
- 3 information from the registry on the department's publicly
- 4 accessible Internet website.
- 5 (e) Correction of information. -- The department shall
- 6 establish a procedure for correcting false or otherwise
- 7 incorrect information contained on the registry.
- 8 (f) Regulations.--The department shall promulgate
- 9 regulations necessary for administration of this act.
- 10 Section 4. Effective date.
- 11 This act shall take effect in 60 days.