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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 833 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, FONTANA, BLAKE AND BREWSTER,  
AUGUST 26, 2019

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REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, AUGUST 26, 2019

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in marriage ceremony, further  
3 providing for persons qualified to solemnize marriages.

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

6 Section 1. Section 1503(a) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a paragraph to read:  
8 § 1503. Persons qualified to solemnize marriages.

9 (a) General rule.--The following are authorized to solemnize  
10 marriages between persons that produce a marriage license issued  
11 under this part:

12 \* \* \*

13 (7) A civil celebrant who has completed a civil  
14 celebrant course of study which includes at least 120 hours  
15 of instruction in planning and performing civil ceremonies,  
16 including celebrant philosophy and history, ceremonial  
17 structure and ceremonial presentations, offered by a  
18 nondenominational or educational charitable organization that

1     is registered with the Commonwealth.

2     \* \* \*

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