
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 834 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, COSTA, COLLETT, SCHWANK AND BROWNE,
AUGUST 26, 2019

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, AUGUST 26, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in assault, providing for the offense
3 of assault on media professional.

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

6 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 2712.1. Assault on media professional.

9 (a) Offense defined.--A person who violates section 2701
10 (relating to simple assault), where the victim is a media
11 professional who was assaulted while engaged in performance of
12 their professional duty, is guilty of assault on a media
13 professional.

14 (b) Grading.--Assault on a media professional is a
15 misdemeanor of the first degree.

16 (c) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "media
17 professional" means an officer, agent, purveyor or employee of a
18 news media organization engaged in news gathering or

1 dissemination of information in a daily or weekly newspaper,
2 magazine, periodical, book, digital publication or radio or
3 television news broadcast.

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