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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2515 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY FARRY, WHITE, HILL-EVANS, POLINCHOCK, DRISCOLL,  
SCHLOSSBERG, SCHLEGEL CULVER AND CIRESI, APRIL 13, 2022

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, APRIL 13, 2022

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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 employes  
21 of a health care provider who are responsible for providing in-

1 person care to patients involving exposure to this disease or  
2 employees of a health care provider who may have had exposure to  
3 this disease. The following shall apply:

4 (1) A positive test for infection with this disease in an  
5 individual in these occupations shall establish a presumption  
6 that this disease is an occupational disease within the meaning  
7 of this act, but this presumption may not be conclusive and may  
8 be rebutted.

9 (2) This subsection shall apply to any positive test  
10 described under paragraph (1) that occurs on or after March 6,  
11 2020.

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.