

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 937 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY PICKETT, BENNINGHOFF, BONNER, CAUSER, FLICK,  
FREEMAN, JAMES, STRUZZI AND WATRO, APRIL 17, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, APRIL 17, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), entitled "An  
2 act providing for the administration of a statewide system of  
3 vital statistics; prescribing the functions of the State  
4 Department of Health, the State Advisory Health Board and  
5 local registrars; imposing duties upon coroners,  
6 prothonotaries, clerks of orphans' court, physicians,  
7 midwives and other persons; requiring reports and  
8 certificates for the registration of vital statistics;  
9 regulating the disposition of dead bodies; limiting the  
10 disclosure of records; prescribing the sufficiency of vital  
11 statistics records as evidence; prescribing fees and  
12 penalties; and revising and consolidating the laws relating  
13 thereto," in registration district administration, further  
14 providing for local registrars' compensation; and making a  
15 repeal.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
17 hereby enacts as follows:

18 Section 1. Section 304(c) of the act of June 29, 1953  
19 (P.L.304, No.66), known as the Vital Statistics Law of 1953, is  
20 amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection to  
21 read:

22 Section 304. Registration Districts: Local Registrars'  
23 Compensation.--\* \* \*

24 (b.1) For the issuance of certificates of death by a local

1 registrar under section 609-A(a) (6) (ii) of the act of April 9,  
2 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as "The Administrative Code of  
3 1929," the following shall apply:

4 (1) Local registrars shall issue certificates of death from  
5 original certificates of death in the possession of the local  
6 registrars upon completion of a period of instruction on the  
7 preparation of certificates by representatives of the Division  
8 of Vital Records.

9 (2) Each fee received by the local registrar under section  
10 609-A(a) (6) (ii) of "The Administrative Code of 1929" shall be  
11 distributed, retained or transmitted to the department as  
12 follows:

13 (i) The following apply:

14 (A) Except as provided under clause (B), six dollars (\$6)  
15 shall be retained by the local registrar.

16 (B) If the limitation under subsection (c) (1) has been  
17 reached, six dollars (\$6) shall be transmitted to the department  
18 for deposit into the General Fund.

19 (ii) Thirteen dollars (\$13) shall be transmitted to the  
20 department for deposit into the Vital Statistics Improvement  
21 Account.

22 (iii) One dollar (\$1) shall be transmitted to the department  
23 for distribution to the county coroner or medical examiner as  
24 provided for under section 206.

25 (c) (1) A local registrar may not be compensated in excess  
26 of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) in any one calendar year.  
27 Compensation shall include fees received from the department  
28 under subsection (a) and retained from requesters under  
29 subsection [(b)] (b.1).

30 (2) [Upon reaching the limitation on compensation set forth

1 under clause (1) in any one calendar year, the local registrar  
2 shall transmit all additional fees received under subsection (b)  
3 to the department for deposit as follows:

4 (i) Three dollars (\$3) shall be deposited in the Vital  
5 Statistics Improvement Fund.

6 (ii) Three dollars (\$3) shall be deposited in the General  
7 Fund.] (Reserved).

8 \* \* \*

9 Section 2. Repeals are as follows:

10 (1) The General Assembly declares that the repeal under  
11 paragraph (2) is necessary to effectuate the addition of  
12 section 304(b.1) of the act.

13 (2) Section 1725-E of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343,  
14 No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, is repealed.

15 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.