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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1328 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY LEADBETER, ROWE, HAMM, PICKETT, M. MACKENZIE,  
STAMBAUGH, OWLETT, KAUFFMAN, SCHEUREN, CAUSER, CABELL AND  
ZIMMERMAN, JUNE 6, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, JUNE 6, 2023

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in local organizations and services,  
3 further providing for local coordinator of emergency  
4 management.

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

7 Section 1. Section 7502(c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) of Title  
8 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to  
9 read:

10 § 7502. Local coordinator of emergency management.

11 \* \* \*

12 (c) Local level.--At the local level, the local coordinator  
13 shall be appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of  
14 the executive officer or governing body of the political  
15 subdivision. Upon the failure of the executive officer or  
16 governing body of a political subdivision to make a  
17 recommendation to the Governor of a candidate for local  
18 coordinator within the time fixed by the agency, the Governor is

1 authorized to appoint a local coordinator without any  
2 recommendation. A candidate for local coordinator for two or  
3 more political subdivisions may be recommended to the Governor  
4 for appointment upon agreement by resolution of the governing  
5 bodies of such political subdivisions. Any other law  
6 notwithstanding, a local government official may be recommended  
7 for appointment.

8 (d) Qualifications.--The following shall apply:

9 (1) A local coordinator shall be professionally  
10 competent [and capable of planning, effecting coordination  
11 among operating agencies of government and controlling  
12 coordinated operations by local emergency preparedness  
13 forces.] and certified at and under the standards developed  
14 for associate level of certification. The executive officer  
15 or governing body of the political subdivision may require a  
16 local coordinator to be certified above the associate level  
17 of certification. A local coordinator certified or  
18 recertifying at the associate level of certification shall  
19 complete continuing education credits not to exceed 36 hours  
20 every three years.

21 (2) A county coordinator shall be certified at and under  
22 the standards developed for a professional level of  
23 certification.

24 (e) In-service training.--Each appointed county or local  
25 coordinator shall:

26 (1) Attend and successfully complete the first phase of  
27 the career development program as prescribed by the agency  
28 within one year after appointment.

29 (2) Attend and successfully complete the second phase of  
30 the career development program as prescribed by the agency

1 within three years after appointment.

2 (3) Attend basic and advanced seminars, workshops and  
3 training conferences called by the State director and/or  
4 official having responsibility for providing the county or  
5 local coordinator with in-service training.

6 Failure to attend the instruction described in this subsection  
7 or failure to attend a prescribed training conference for a  
8 period of two consecutive years shall be cause for replacement.

9 The State Director of Emergency Management may grant credit  
10 toward meeting the requirements of this subsection to [appointed  
11 local coordinators] county or local coordinators appointed under  
12 this section on the basis of prior experience and training.

13 (f) Responsibility for training.--Responsibility for the  
14 professional in-service training of each county or local  
15 coordinator rests with each successive higher political  
16 subdivision than the one in which the county or local  
17 coordinator is functioning. The training requirements under this  
18 section for county and local coordinators shall not apply if  
19 Federal law or regulations apply otherwise.

20 (g) Expenses.--Each appointed county or local coordinator  
21 shall be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the  
22 performance of his duties and attendance at scheduled meetings.

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