

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 574 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY MUTH, CAPPELLETTI, KEARNEY, L. WILLIAMS, SAVAL,
FONTANA AND HAYWOOD, APRIL 17, 2023

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, APRIL 17, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 54 (Names) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in judicial change of name, further providing for
3 court approval required for change of name and for change by
4 order of court.

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

7 Section 1. Sections 701(b) and 702(c)(1) and (2) of Title 54
8 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

9 § 701. Court approval required for change of name.

10 * * *

11 (b) Informal change of name.--Notwithstanding subsection

12 (a), a person may at any time adopt and use any name if such

13 name is used consistently, nonfraudulently and exclusively. [The

14 adoption of such name shall not, however, be in contravention of

15 the prohibitions contained in section 702(c) (relating to change

16 by order of court).]

17 § 702. Change by order of court.

18 * * *

19 (c) Convicted felons.--

1 (1) The court may order a change of name for a person
2 convicted of a felony[, subject to provisions of paragraph
3 (2),] if:

4 (i) [at least two calendar years have elapsed from
5 the date of completion of a person's sentence and that
6 person] the person has completed the person's sentence
7 and is not subject to the probation or parole
8 jurisdiction of any court, county probation agency or the
9 Pennsylvania [Board of Probation and] Parole Board; or

10 (ii) the person has been pardoned.

11 [(2) The court may not order a change of name for a
12 person convicted of murder, voluntary manslaughter, rape,
13 involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, statutory sexual
14 assault, sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, robbery
15 as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3701(a)(1)(i) (relating to
16 robbery), aggravated assault as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. §
17 2702(a)(1) or (2) (relating to aggravated assault), arson as
18 defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3301(a) (relating to arson and
19 related offenses), kidnapping or robbery of a motor vehicle
20 or criminal attempt, criminal conspiracy or criminal
21 solicitation to commit any of the offenses listed above or an
22 equivalent crime under the laws of this Commonwealth in
23 effect at the time of the commission of that offense or an
24 equivalent crime in another jurisdiction.]

25 * * *

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