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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 842 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY DILLON, BARTOLOTTA, FLYNN, FONTANA, BREWSTER,  
COSTA, FARRY, TARTAGLIONE, AUMENT, HAYWOOD, KANE, KEARNEY,  
A. WILLIAMS, SANTARSIERO, PENNYCUICK, GEBHARD, ROBINSON AND  
ROTHMAN, JUNE 30, 2023

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REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JUNE 30, 2023

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in assault, providing for the offense  
3 of harassment of sports official.

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 § 2709.2. Harassment of sports official.

9 (a) Offense defined.--A person who violates section 2709(a)  
10 (1), (2), (3) or (4) (relating to harassment), where the victim  
11 is a sports official who was harassed as a result of official  
12 acts or status as a sports official, is guilty of harassment of  
13 a sports official.

14 (b) Grading.--An offense under subsection (a) shall  
15 constitute a misdemeanor of the third degree.

16 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
17 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this

1 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Sports official." A person at a sporting event who enforces  
3 the rules of the event, such as an umpire or referee, or a  
4 person who supervises the participants, such as a coach. The  
5 term includes a trainer, team attendant, game manager, athletic  
6 director, assistant athletic director, president, dean,  
7 headmaster, principal and assistant principal of a school,  
8 college or university.

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