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**LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA.**

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**FILE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.****No. 621 Session of 1919.**

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**INTRODUCED BY MR. J. A. WALKER, FEBRUARY 24, 1919.**

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**REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY GENERAL,  
FEBRUARY 25, 1919.**

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**AN ACT**

Prohibiting corporations from engaging in the practice of law and prescribing penalties for violations thereof

1 Section 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-*  
2 *sentatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly*  
3 *met and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same* That  
4 it shall be unlawful for any corporation to practice or  
5 appear as an attorney-at-law for any person other than  
6 itself in any court in this State or before any judicial  
7 body or to make it a business to practice as an at-  
8 torney-at-law for any person other than itself in any of  
9 said courts or to hold itself out to the public as being  
10 entitled to practice law or render or furnish legal serv-  
11 ices or advice or to furnish attorneys or counsel or to  
12 render legal services of any kind in actions or proceed-  
13 ings of any nature or in any other way or manner  
14 or in any other manners to assume to be entitled to  
15 practice law or to assume use or advertise the title of

1 lawyer or attorney attorney-at-law or equivalent terms in  
 2 any language in such manner as to convey the impres-  
 3 sion that it is entitled to practice law or to furnish  
 4 legal advice services or counsel or to advertise that either  
 5 alone or together with or by or through any person  
 6 whether a duly and regularly admitted attorney-at-law or  
 7 not it has owns conducts or maintains a law office or  
 8 an office for the practice of law or for furnishing legal  
 9 advice services or counsel It shall be unlawful further  
 10 for any corporation to solicit itself or by or through  
 11 its officers agents or employees and claim or demand for  
 12 the purpose of bringing an action thereon or of rep-  
 13 resenting as attorney-at-law or for furnishing legal advice  
 14 services or counsel to a person sued or about to be  
 15 sued in any action or proceeding or against whom an  
 16 action or proceeding has been brought or who may be  
 17 affected by any action or proceeding which has been or  
 18 may be instituted in any court or before any judicial  
 19 body or for the purpose of so representing any person  
 20 in the pursuit of any civil remedy Any corporation  
 21 violating the provisions of this section shall be liable to  
 22 a fine of not more than five thousand dollars and any  
 23 officer trustee director agent or employee of such corpora-  
 24 tion who directly or indirectly engages in any of the  
 25 acts herein prohibited or assists such corporation to do  
 26 such prohibited acts is guilty of a misdemeanor The  
 27 fact that such officer trustee director agent or employee  
 28 shall be a duly and regularly admitted attorney-at-law  
 29 shall not be held to permit or allow any such corpora-

1 tion to do the acts prohibited herein nor shall such fact  
2 be a defense upon the trial of any of the persons  
3 mentioned herein for a violation of the provisions of this  
4 section This section shall not apply to any corporation  
5 lawfully engaged in a business authorized by the provis-  
6 ions of any existing statute nor to a corporation law-  
7 fully engaged in the examination and insuring of titles  
8 to real property nor shall it prohibit a corporation from  
9 employing an attorney or attorneys in and about its own  
10 immediate affairs or in any litigation to which it is or  
11 may be a party nor shall it apply to organizations or-  
12 ganized for educational benevolent or charitable purposes  
13 or for the purpose of assisting persons without means  
14 in the pursuit of any civil remedy

15 Nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent  
16 a corporation from furnishing to any person lawfully en-  
17 gaged in the practice of law such information or such  
18 clerical services in and about his professional work as  
19 except for the provisions of this section may be lawful  
20 provided that at all times the lawyer receiving such in-  
21 formation or such services shall maintain full professional  
22 and direct responsibility to his clients for the information  
23 and services so received But no corporation shall be per-  
24 mitted to render any services which cannot lawfully be  
25 rendered by a person not admitted to practice law in  
26 this State nor to solicit directly or indirectly professional  
27 employment for a lawyer