
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. **739** Session of
1961

INTRODUCED BY MR. DONOLOW, JUNE 6, 1961.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY GENERAL,
JUNE 6, 1961.

AN ACT

For the improvement of the judicial system by providing for an administrator for the courts and for an annual conference of judges

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows

- 1 Section 1 There shall be a State office to be known as the office of
- 2 administrator for the courts who shall be appointed by the Supreme
- 3 Court and shall hold office at the pleasure of the appointing power He
- 4 shall receive a salary of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) per year

EXPLANATION—CAPITAL LETTERS indicate new matter added to bill. Matter stricken through is to be omitted from bill. Underscoring indicates new matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

1 Section 2 The administrator for the courts with the approval of
2 the Supreme Court shall appoint and fix the compensation of such
3 assistants as are necessary to enable him to perform the powers and
4 duties vested in him During his term of office or employment neither
5 the administrator nor any assistant shall engage directly or indirectly
6 in the practice of the law in any of the courts of this State

7 Section 3 The administrator for the courts shall under the super-
8 vision and direction of the Supreme Court

9 (1) Examine the administrative methods and systems employed in
10 the offices of the prothonotaries clerks of the courts and probation
11 officers and make recommendations for the improvement of the same

12 (2) Confer from time to time with the president judge and the
13 judges of any court to establish the need for assistance of any court

14 (3) Make recommendations to the Supreme Court relating to the
15 assignment of judges where courts are in need of assistance and carry
16 out the direction of the Supreme Court as to the assignments of judges
17 to districts where the courts are in need of assistance

18 (4) Examine the dockets of any court of record

1 (5) Collect and compile such statistical and other data and make
2 such reports of the business transacted by the courts as may be required
3 by law or by rules adopted by three judicial conferences

4 (6) Prepare and submit budget estimates of appropriations neces-
5 sary for the maintenance and operation of the judicial system and make
6 recommendations in respect thereto

7 (7) Draw all requisitions for the payment of moneys appropriated
8 for the maintenance and operation of the judicial system

9 (8) Obtain reports from prothonotaries and clerks of courts in
10 accordance with law or rules adopted by the judicial conference on
11 cases and other judicial business in which action has been delayed be-
12 yond periods of time specified by law or rules of court and make report
13 thereof to the Supreme Court

14 (9) Act as secretary of the judicial conference and perform such
15 other duties as may be assigned by the judicial conference

16 (10) Formulate and submit to the judicial conference recom-
17 mendations for the improvement of the judicial system and

18 (11) Attend to such other matters as may be assigned by the
19 judicial conference

1 Section 4 The judges prothonotaries clerks of the courts and all
2 other officers State and local shall comply with all requests made by the
3 administrator for information and statistical data bearing on the state
4 of the dockets of such courts and such other information as may be
5 required by him in the performance of his duties under this act

6 Section 5 There shall be an annual conference of the judges of
7 the courts of record of this State and of the chairmen of the judiciary
8 committee of the House and Senate of the General Assembly of this
9 State The first such conference shall be convened by special order of
10 the Supreme Court and all such future conferences shall be provided
11 for by resolution adopted at the first conference Such conference shall
12 be convened for the consideration of matters relating to judicial business
13 the improvement of the judicial system and the administration of
14 justice Each judge attending shall be entitled to be reimbursed for his
15 necessary expenses to be paid from appropriations made for such
16 purpose

17 Section 6 This act shall apply to all courts of record in the Com-
18 monwealth

19 Section 7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Court
20 Administrator Act"

1 Section 8 This act shall take effect in sixty days

We certify that this bill has passed the Senate and the House of Representatives.

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Chief Clerk, Senate

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President pro tempore, Senate

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Speaker, House of Representatives

Approved The day of A. D. 1961.

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Governor