

## No. 533

## AN ACT

HB 1699

Amending the act of October 27, 1955 (P. L. 744), entitled, as amended, "An act prohibiting certain practices of discrimination because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age or national origin by employers, employment agencies, labor organizations and others as herein defined; creating the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission in the Department of Labor and Industry; defining its functions, powers and duties; providing for procedure and enforcement; providing for formulation of an educational program to prevent prejudice; providing for judicial review and enforcement and imposing penalties," providing for the establishment of Local Human Relations Commissions; authorizing political subdivisions to make appropriations to local commissions; granting powers and duties to local commissions; providing for injunctions in certain housing complaints; and providing penalties.

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

Section 1. Section 4, act of October 27, 1955 (P. L. 744), known as the "Pennsylvania Human Relations Act," amended February 28, 1961 (P. L. 47), is amended by adding, at the end thereof, three new clauses to read:

Section 4. Definitions.—As used in this act unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

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(m) The term "political subdivision" means any county, city, borough, incorporated town or township of this Commonwealth.

(n) The term "legislative body" means the body or board authorized by law to enact ordinances or adopt resolutions for the political subdivision.

(o) The term "local commission" means a Human Relations Commission created by the legislative body of a political subdivision.

Section 2. The act is amended by adding, after section 9, a new section to read:

Section 9.1. Injunctions in Certain Housing Complaints.—When it appears that a housing unit or units involved in a complaint may be sold, rented or otherwise disposed of before a determination of the case has been made, and the commission shows probable cause for the complaint, the court of common pleas of the county in which the unit is located may issue an injunction restraining the sale, rental or other disposition of the unit or units, except in compliance with the order of court. The

court may attach to any such injunction granted such other conditions as it deems proper. Such injunction, if issued, shall be of no more than thirty days duration. If an extension of time is required by the commission, this extension may be granted at the discretion of the court, but a reasonable bond shall be required by the court before granting such extension.

Section 3. The act is amended by adding after section 12, a new section to read:

Section 12.1. Local Human Relations Commissions.—(a) The legislative body of a political subdivision may, by ordinance or resolution, authorize the establishment or membership in and support of a Local Human Relations Commission. The number and qualifications of the members of any local commission and their terms and method of appointment or removal shall be such as may be determined and agreed upon by the legislative body, except that no such member shall hold office in any political party. Members of a local commission shall serve without salary but may be paid expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(b) The legislative body of any political subdivision shall have the authority to appropriate funds, in such amounts as may be deemed necessary, for the purpose of contributing to the operation of a local commission.

(c) The local commission shall have the power to appoint such employees and staff, as it may deem necessary, to fulfill its purpose.

(d) The legislative bodies of political subdivisions shall have the authority to grant to local commissions powers and duties similar to those now exercised by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission under the provisions of this act.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 24th day of January, A. D. 1966.

WILLIAM W. SCRANTON