

"The First Class Township Code."

Clause two of section 1709, act of June 23, 1931, P. L. 1206, as reenacted, amended and revised by act of May 27, 1949, P. L. 1955, further amended.

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

Section 1. Clause two of section 1709 of the act, approved the twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one (Pamphlet Laws 1206), entitled "An act concerning townships of the first class; amending, revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating thereto," as reenacted, amended and revised by the act, approved the twenty-seventh day of May, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 1955), is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 1709. Tax Levies.—The board of township commissioners may levy taxes upon all property and upon all occupations within the township made taxable for township purposes, as ascertained by the valuation for county purposes made by the assessors of the several counties of this Commonwealth for the year for which the township taxes are levied, for the purposes and at the rate hereinafter specified: Provided, however, That such valuation shall be subject to correction by the county commissioners of the several counties, and to appeal by the taxable persons in accordance with existing laws.

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Two. [A tax] *An annual tax not exceeding one mill for the purpose of building and maintaining suitable places for the housing of fire apparatus and for the purpose of purchasing and maintaining fire apparatus—the receipts from said tax for maintenance to be divided among [the places maintained] the fire companies of the township.*

APPROVED—The 14th day of January, A. D. 1952.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 564

AN ACT

To amend subsection (b) of section 501 of the act, approved the third day of June, one thousand nine hundred thirty-seven (Pamphlet Laws 1225), entitled "An act concerning game and other wild birds and wild animals; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating thereto," by providing for removal of all protection on raccoons in counties infested with rabies upon notice to commission by Department of Agriculture.

"The Game Law."

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

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 501 of the act, approved the third day of June, one thousand nine hundred thirty-seven (Pamphlet Laws 1225), entitled "An act concerning game and other wild birds and wild animals; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating thereto," as amended by the act, approved the twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one (Pamphlet Laws 810), is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Subsection (b) of section 501, act of June 3, 1937, P. L. 1225, as amended by act of June 24, 1939, P. L. 810, further amended.

Section 501. Open Seasons.—After investigation, or information otherwise obtained by the commission, as to the annual game supply, the commission may, by appropriate rules and regulations, a summary of which shall be published as hereinafter specified, fix seasons, shooting hours, and daily, season and possession limits, or remove protection and declare an open season, or increase, reduce or close seasons, or increase or reduce bag limits, for all species of game birds and game animals throughout the Commonwealth, or in any part thereof, or limit the number of hunters in any designated area and prescribe the methods of hunting therein, when in its opinion, such action is necessary to assure the maintenance of an adequate supply of such species, or when an unbalanced sex ratio exists which in its opinion should be corrected, or when, in the opinion of the commission, such additional open season will not jeopardize the future supply of game.

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(b) Raccoons Not to Be Trapped; Exceptions; *Removal of Protection, etc.* Except in defense of person or property, it is unlawful for any person to take, or attempt to take, raccoons through the use of traps or deadfalls, except in such county or counties as the commission may, by proper resolution, public notice of which shall be given as hereinafter provided, declare open to trapping when in its opinion raccoons are sufficiently abundant to justify such trapping, but the provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to prevent any bona fide occupant of a farm which lies within any county not declared open to general public raccoon trapping, who is a citizen of the United States and actually resides upon and cultivates such farm, or any immediate member of his family, or regularly hired help of such occupant, if any such person is a citizen of the United States, actually residing upon and cultivating such farm, from trapping raccoons thereon, including the woodlands connected therewith as a part thereof, so long as any such person complies with the provisions of this act or the rules and regulations adopted thereunder governing trapping methods, seasons and bag limits, unless the commission has denied or this act does

deny to any such person the right to hunt or trap anywhere in this Commonwealth.

After investigation or upon information otherwise obtained by the Department of Agriculture as to any county being infested with rabies, the commission shall, upon notice given by said department, remove all protection on raccoons in such infested counties, or declare an open season on such animals, or direct the killing and disposition of same, in such manner as the case may require.

APPROVED—The 14th day of January, A. D. 1952.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 565

AN ACT

To amend section 1 of the act, approved the fourteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred seventy-four (Pamphlet Laws 159), entitled "An act relating to compulsory arbitrations," by changing the terminology of the pleadings and making the provisions of the act inapplicable in certain cases.

Arbitrations.

Section 1, act of
May 14, 1874,
P. L. 159,
amended.

Terminology of
pleadings in civil
suits or actions
changed.

Provisions of act
inapplicable to
certain cases.

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

Section 1. Section 1 of the act, approved the fourteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred seventy-four (Pamphlet Laws 159), entitled "An act relating to compulsory arbitrations," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That from and after the passage of this act it shall not be lawful, in any civil suit or action in any court in this commonwealth, wherein [an affidavit of claim] *a complaint* is or may be required, and in which the plaintiff [, by himself or his agent or attorney,] shall have filed [an affidavit of claim setting forth the nature and amount thereof, and shall have also filed a declaration or statement] *a complaint* for the defendant to enter a rule of reference declaring his intention to have arbitrators chosen, unless he shall have previously filed [an affidavit of defence specifically setting forth the nature and character of the same] *an answer in cases where an answer is required*, and a rule of reference shall in no case prevent the plaintiff from moving for or the court from entering judgment [for want of a sufficient affidavit of defence] *on the pleadings in a proper case. This section shall not apply to cases referred to the board of arbitrators by agreement under*