

fixing their compensation; regulating the practice in and defining magistrates' courts, the entering of bail, and the issuance of discharges in criminal cases in the county of Philadelphia; conferring certain powers over magistrates and magistrates' courts; and imposing certain duties in connection therewith upon the judges of the courts of common pleas of the county of Philadelphia, the Attorney General, and the District Attorney; providing for the appointment and employment of stenographers to report proceedings in certain cases heard by magistrates; fixing the salaries of persons employed by authority of this act; providing penalties for violations of the provisions thereof; and repealing certain prior acts," providing for expense and clerical allowances for magistrates.

"1937 Magistrates' Court Act".

Subsection B, section 37, act of June 15, 1937, P. L. 1743, as last amended June 2, 1951, P. L. 510, further amended.

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

Section 1. Subsection B, section thirty-seven, act of June fifteenth, one thousand nine hundred thirty-seven (Pamphlet Laws 1743), known as the "1937 Magistrates' Court Act," amended June two, one thousand nine hundred fifty-one (Pamphlet Laws 510), is amended to read:

Section 37.

* * * * *

Salaries and allowances of magistrates, chief magistrate and clerks.

B. Each magistrate shall receive a salary for his services of seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7500) per annum *and, in addition, shall receive an allowance for additional clerical assistance and other expenses in connection with the duties of his office the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200) per month.* The chief magistrate shall receive, in addition to his salary *and monthly expense allowance* as magistrate, a salary of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500) per annum. The deputy stenographic clerk and each clerk of a magistrate's court shall receive a salary as fixed by law. Said salaries *and expense allowances* shall be paid by the city in semi-monthly payments.

Act effective immediately.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 27th day of July, A. D. 1955.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 96

AN ACT

Amending the act of May one, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 905), entitled "An act for the protection of the public safety; regulating the use of highways, and the operation of vehicles, tractors, street cars, trackless trolley omnibuses, bicycles, pedestrians, and the riding of animals upon the highways of this Commonwealth; providing for the titling, including liens, encumbrances, and legal claims; registration of

certain vehicles and licensing the operators thereof, upon payment of prescribed fees; prescribing and limiting the powers of local authorities to deal with the subject matter of this act; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, the Department of Highways, peace officers, mayors, burgesses, magistrates, aldermen, justices of the peace, the courts and the clerks thereof, owners of vehicles, and garage keepers; providing that records are admissible as evidence; imposing upon owners, counties, cities, boroughs, incorporated towns, townships, within the Commonwealth, liability for damages caused by the negligent operation of their motor vehicles; imposing penalties; imposing certain costs upon counties; providing for the disposition of fines, forfeitures, fees, and miscellaneous receipts; making an appropriation; and providing for refunds," increasing jurisdiction of aldermen and justices of the peace in civil actions arising from use of vehicles.

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

"The Vehicle Code."

Section 1. Section one thousand two hundred eight, act of May one, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 905), known as "The Vehicle Code," amended June twenty-two, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one (Pamphlet Laws 751), is amended to read:

Section 1208. Civil Actions for Damages.—All civil actions for damages, arising from the use and operation of any vehicle, may, at the discretion of the plaintiff, be brought before any magistrate, alderman or justice of the peace, in the county wherein the alleged damages were sustained, if the plaintiff has had said damage repaired, and shall produce a receipted bill for the same, properly sworn to by the said party making such repairs or his agent; or action may be brought in the court of common pleas of said county, and service of process, in either case, may be made by the sheriff of the county where the suit is brought deputizing the sheriff of the county wherein the defendant or his registered agent resides, or where service may be had upon him under the existing laws of this Commonwealth, in like manner as process may now be served in the proper county. No action involving more than one hundred (\$100.00) dollars shall be brought before any magistrate *in cities of the first class and no action involving more than three hundred (\$300.00) dollars shall be brought before any alderman or justice of the peace.*

Section 1208, act of May 1, 1929, P. L. 905, amended June 22, 1931, P. L. 751, further amended.

APPROVED—The 27th day of July, A. D. 1955.

GEORGE M. LEADER