

No. 287

AN ACT

Amending the act of April 27, 1927 (P. L. 414), entitled, as amended, "An act providing for a system of recording the identification of persons convicted of crime, and of fugitives from justice, and habitual criminals; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Pennsylvania State Police, district attorneys, police officers, wardens or keepers of jails, prisons, workhouses, or other penal institutions, and sheriffs; providing for the payment of certain expenses by the counties; and imposing penalties," making it unlawful to take the fingerprints or photographs of persons in custody who are charged with certain violations of "The Vehicle Code."

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

Section 1. Section 3, act of April 27, 1927 (P. L. 414), entitled, as amended, "An act providing for a system of recording the identification of persons convicted of crime, and of fugitives from justice, and habitual criminals; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Pennsylvania State Police, district attorneys, police officers, wardens or keepers of jails, prisons, workhouses, or other penal institutions, and sheriffs; providing for the payment of certain expenses by the counties; and imposing penalties," amended April 28, 1943 (P. L. 119), is amended to read:

Section 3. The Pennsylvania State Police, the persons in charge of State penal institutions, the wardens or keepers of jails, prisons, and workhouses within this Commonwealth, and all police officers within the several political subdivisions of this Commonwealth, shall have the authority to take, or cause to be taken, the fingerprints or photographs of any person in custody, charged with the commission of crime, or who they have reason to believe is a fugitive from justice or a habitual criminal, *except persons charged with a violation of "The Vehicle Code" which is punishable upon conviction in a summary proceeding unless they have reason to believe the person is a fugitive from justice or a habitual criminal*; and it shall be the duty of the chiefs of bureaus of all cities within this Commonwealth to furnish daily, to the Pennsylvania State Police, copies of the fingerprints and, if possible, photographs, of all persons arrested within their jurisdiction charged with the commission of felony, or who they have reason to believe are fugitives from justice or habitual criminals, such fingerprints to be taken on forms furnished or approved by the Pennsylvania State Police. It shall be the duty of the Pennsylvania State Police, immediately upon the receipt of such records, to compare them with those already in their files, and, if they find that any person arrested has a previous criminal

Criminal
identification.

Section 3, act of
April 27, 1927,
P. L. 414,
amended April
28, 1943, P. L.
119, further
amended.

Police officers
may take finger-
prints or photo-
graphs of crim-
inals.

Chiefs of bureaus
of cities to
report finger-
prints.

Pennsylvania
State Police to
compare finger-
prints with files.

record or is a fugitive from justice, forthwith to inform the arresting officer, or the officer having the prisoner in charge, of such fact.

Act effective immediately.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 13th day of July, A. D. 1961.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE

No. 288

AN ACT

Amending the act of September 29, 1951 (P. L. 1645), entitled "An act authorizing the orphans' courts of the several counties, upon application therefor, to place documents defined as historical documents in the temporary custody of certain associations maintaining facilities for public display of historical writings; conferring powers and imposing duties on registers of wills," extending the provisions of the act to the recorder of deeds, the clerk of courts and the prothonotary, and imposing duties on the court of common pleas.

Historical documents.

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

Title and sections 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, act of September 29, 1951, P. L. 1645, amended.

Section 1. The title and sections 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6, act of September 29, 1951 (P. L. 1645), entitled "An act authorizing the orphans' courts of the several counties, upon application therefor, to place documents defined as historical documents in the temporary custody of certain associations maintaining facilities for public display of historical writings; conferring powers and imposing duties on registers of wills," are amended to read:

AN ACT

New title.

Authorizing the [orphans'] courts of the several counties, upon application therefor, to place documents defined as historical documents in the temporary custody of certain associations maintaining facilities for public display of historical writings; conferring powers and imposing duties on [registers of wills] *various county officers*.

Definition: historical document.

Section 1. As used in this act, the term "historical document" means any document [relating to the property or the disposition of the property of] *formerly belonging to a decedent [who has been deceased for more than fifty (50) years] or any person, which document is more than fifty years old and which is in the custody of a register of wills, the recorder of deeds, the clerk of any court or the prothonotary, except documents relating to adoption, divorce or custody.*