

No. 113

AN ACT

SB 363

Amending the act of June 16, 1836 (P.L.715, No.186), entitled "An act relating to Reference and Arbitration," changing the amount which may be arbitrated in counties of the third class.

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

Section 1. Section 8.1, act of June 16, 1836 (P.L.715, No.186), entitled "An act relating to Reference and Arbitration," amended June 30, 1972 (P.L.500, No.159), is amended to read:

Section 8.1. The several courts of common pleas may by rules of court, provide that all cases which are at issue where the amount in controversy shall be ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or less in counties of the first and second class, **[and]** second class A, and **third class and** five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or less in all other counties, except those involving title to real estate, shall first be submitted to and heard by a board of three (3) members of the bar within the judicial district and may fix the maximum amount required to be submitted in any amount between two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), in counties of the first and second class, **[and]** second class A and **third class, and** between two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in all other counties, exclusive of interest and costs. Cases which are not at issue and whether or not suit has been filed may be referred to the board of arbitration by agreement of reference signed by counsel for both sides in the case. Said agreement of reference shall define the issues involved for determination by the board and, when agreeable, shall also contain stipulations with respect to facts submitted or agreed or defenses waived. In such cases, the agreement of reference shall take the place of the pleadings in the case and be filed of record.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 18th day of October, A. D. 1975.

MILTON J. SHAPP