

No. 1980-137

AN ACT

HB 2184

Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

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

Section 1. Section 722 of Title 42, act of November 25, 1970 (P.L.707, No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, is amended to read:

§ 722. Direct appeals from courts of common pleas.

The Supreme Court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of appeals from final orders of the courts of common pleas in the following classes of cases:

- (1) **[Felonious homicide.] Matters prescribed by general rule.**
- (2) The right to public office.
- (3) **[Matters decided in the orphans' court division.] Matters where the qualifications, tenure or right to serve, or the manner of service, of any member of the judiciary is drawn in question.**
- (4) **[Direct criminal contempt in the courts of common pleas and other contempt proceedings in the courts of common pleas relating to orders which are appealable directly to the Supreme Court.] Automatic review of sentences as provided by 42 Pa.C.S. § 9711(h) (relating to review of death sentence).**
- (5) Supersession of a district attorney by an Attorney General or by a court.
- (6) Matters where the right or power of the Commonwealth or any political subdivision to create or issue indebtedness is drawn in direct question.
- (7) Matters where the court of common pleas has held invalid as repugnant to the Constitution, treaties or laws of the United States, or to the Constitution of this Commonwealth, any treaty or law of the United States or any provision of the Constitution of, or of any statute of, this Commonwealth, or any provision of any home rule charter.
- (8) Matters where the right to practice law is drawn in direct question. **[or where the matter has been initiated by the agency vested with the power to discipline or recommend the discipline of attorneys at law.]**

Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

APPROVED—The 23rd day of September, A. D. 1980.

DICK THORNBURGH