

No. 258

## AN ACT

To protect the blind pedestrians on public streets and highways; requiring vehicles to come to a full stop in certain cases; restricting the use of certain colored canes by other pedestrians; and imposing penalties.

Blind.

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

Carrying white cane, etc., declared unlawful unless person is totally or partially blind.

Section 1. It is unlawful for any person, unless totally or partially blind, while on any public street or highway, to carry in a raised or extended position a cane or walking stick which is metallic or white in color or white tipped with red.

Duties of drivers of vehicles with respect to blind persons carrying such white canes, etc.

Section 2. Whenever a totally or partially blind pedestrian is crossing or attempting to cross a public street or highway at an intersection or crosswalk, guided by a guide dog or carrying in a raised or extended position a cane or walking stick which is metallic or white in color or white tipped with red, the driver of every vehicle approaching the said intersection or crosswalk shall take such precautions as may be necessary to avoid \*injuring or endangering such pedestrian, and if injury or danger to such pedestrian can be avoided only by bringing his vehicle to a full stop, he shall bring his said vehicle to a full stop.

Construction of act.

Section 3. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed to deprive any totally or partially blind person, not carrying such a cane or walking stick or not being guided by a dog, of the rights and privileges conferred by law upon pedestrians crossing streets or highways; nor shall the failure of such totally or partially blind person to carry a cane or walking stick or to be guided by a guide dog upon the streets, highways or sidewalks of this Commonwealth be held to constitute nor be evidence of contributory negligence.

Penalty.

Section 4. Any person who violates any provision of this act shall, upon summary conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars (\$25) and costs of prosecution, and in default of payment thereof, shall undergo imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days.

APPROVED—The 10th day of August, A. D. 1951.

JOHN S. FINE

\* "injuring" in original.