

ninety-six dollars (\$1,596) *one thousand seven hundred sixteen dollars (\$1716)* a year. No person shall be denied a pension because of the fact that he or she is not a citizen of the United States. In the event that any act of Congress providing Federal aid toward pension for the blind requires the recipients to be citizens, no such Federal aid moneys shall be expended in the payment of pensions to non-citizens, but such persons shall receive pensions out of the moneys appropriated by this Commonwealth.

APPROVED—The 18th day of January, A. D. 1952.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 615

AN ACT

Creating the Pennsylvania Public Safety Commission as a commission; providing for the appointment of a director of Public Safety; setting forth the powers and duties of the commission and the director; defining the scope of existing safety agencies; and making an appropriation.

Whereas, According to the figures of the National Safety Council there were ninety thousand persons killed in the year one thousand nine hundred fifty in accidents in the United States; and, Preamble.

Whereas, The same report states there were eight million nine hundred thousand persons injured during the year one thousand nine hundred fifty and that all of these accidents caused disability extending beyond the day of the accident and no first aid or minor injury cases are included; and,

Whereas, Property losses resulting from the accidents above mentioned amounted to about seven billion seven hundred million dollars. This includes wage loss of two billion five hundred fifty million dollars, medical expense of four hundred million dollars, overhead costs of insurance of one billion six hundred million dollars, property damage in motor vehicle accidents of one billion two hundred million dollars, property loss in fires of six hundred eighty-eight million dollars, and the indirect costs of occupational accidents of one billion three hundred million dollars; and,

Whereas, Accidents were the fourth most important cause of death. The only causes with more deaths were heart disease, cancer and cerebral hemorrhage. Among males alone in recent years only two causes, heart disease and cancer, ranked above accidents as a cause of death; and,

Whereas, The existing national emergency and the resultant demands for the facilitation of Civil Defense

measures and the great need for increased industrial production make the necessity for safety legislation more urgent than ever.

Pennsylvania
Public Safety
Commission.

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

Section 1. Legislative Findings.—The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania concludes from the facts recited in the preamble of this act that it is evident that the whole field of public safety should be given a careful re-examination and a provocative, effective and continuous safety campaign must be conducted by this Commonwealth so as to reduce the number of accidents and the causes creating them.

Section 2. Creation of Commission.—(a) There is hereby created the Pennsylvania Public Safety Commission which shall be a permanent Commission which shall be under the immediate direction of the Governor.

(b) The Pennsylvania Public Safety Commission shall be composed of the Governor ex officio, the Secretary of Revenue, the Secretary of Highways, the Chairman of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, the executive director of the Pennsylvania Aeronautics Commission, the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police, the Secretary of Labor and Industry, the Secretary of Mines, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commissioner of Insurance, the Secretary of Welfare, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Chairman of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, or such representative from his department as each may designate in his stead, two members of the General Assembly, one from the Senate to be appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate, and one from the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The members of the Commission who are members of the General Assembly shall have no right to vote, but shall in all other respects enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership, and shall serve a term to expire with his concurrent term as a legislator, and shall serve until his successor is appointed and qualified, unless he shall not be elected for the next succeeding term as a member of the General Assembly, in which case a vacancy shall occur, and the Director of Public Safety hereinafter provided for who shall be Chairman of the Commission.

(c) Seven members who are not members of the General Assembly shall constitute a quorum.

(d) The Governor shall appoint a person as the Director of Public Safety who can successfully promote safety. He shall receive such salary as the Governor may determine. The Governor shall also appoint such

necessary assistants as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this act and to fix their compensation.

(e) None of the members of the commission, except the director, shall receive any compensation for his duties as a member of the commission, other than reimbursement for all expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of his duties.

Section 3. Duties of Commission.—It shall be the duty of the Pennsylvania Public Safety Commission:

(1) To meet at least once a month, and the meeting place shall rotate so that each meeting shall be held in the office of a different member. The members shall present a review of the accident hazards within the purview of their respective departments, giving emphasis to (a) new accident hazards, and (b) any type of accident, the occurrence of which is discovered to be increasing at a greater rate than that which is regarded as normal.

(2) To ascertain home, school, farm, institutional, commercial establishment, public assembly, industrial, mining, all kinds of transportation, whether by highway, railway, air or water, accident hazards, and to devise and suggest specific means for their elimination.

(3) To cooperate with the Governor's Highway Safety Advisory Committee, the press, radio, television and other interested groups in promoting safety.

(4) To conduct a continuous campaign of public safety education.

(5) To receive and consider complaints and suggestions made by the public with regard to safety measures.

(6) To exercise such other functions which in the opinion of the commission will reduce the number of accidents and safeguard life and property.

Section 4. Duties of Director.—(a) The Director of Public Safety shall not duplicate the gathering of statistical information which is presently being compiled by any other department or bureau of the Commonwealth.

(b) It shall be the duty of the Director of Public Safety to organize and coordinate on a county level the activities of all municipal officers of counties, cities, boroughs, towns and townships, police, firemen, civilian defense organizations, automobile clubs, parent-teachers' associations, labor, farm, industrial and business organizations, church groups, women's organizations, local, civic and service clubs, and other local organizations, public and private, which may be of assistance in carrying out the purposes of this act.

(c) In performing such duty, the director shall personally advise, consult with, address and otherwise devote his official services to such organizations on a county level and shall contribute a considerable portion of his time to that end.

(d) The Director shall attend all meetings of the commission.

Section 5. Powers of Existing Departments, Boards, etc.—All existing departments, boards, commissions and agencies having to do with safety matters shall receive the recommendations of the commission, and the director and shall take the necessary steps to enforce the laws of this Commonwealth to improve immediately particularly hazardous conditions and to execute such recommendations.

It is the purpose of this act to supplement existing governmental safety agencies with a clearing-house of information, education and recommendations in order that they may better carry out the functions of enforcement and improvement of safety conditions delegated to them by the laws of this Commonwealth, and nothing contained in this act shall be construed to limit or take away the powers of any existing department, board, commission or agency having to do with matters of safety.

Section 6. Costs of Administration.—The salary of the Director of Public Safety and the salaries of the personnel and the necessary expenses incurred by the members of the Pennsylvania Public Safety Commission and the director in carrying out their respective duties and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto shall be met out of the appropriation as hereafter set forth.

Section 7. Appropriation.—The sum of forty-eight thousand dollars (\$48,000), or as much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the Executive Department, to be expended under the direction of the Governor, in carrying out the specific provisions of this act for the two years beginning June first, one thousand nine hundred fifty-one.

Section 8. Repeal.—All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Section 9. Effective Date.—The provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon its final enactment.

APPROVED—The 18th day of January, A. D. 1952.

JOHN S. FINE