No. 160

AN ACT

HB 65

Amending Titles 45 (Legal Notices) and 1 (General Provisions) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, adding revised, codified and compiled provisions relating to legal notice and publication of documents and revising and reenacting separately certain related provisions.

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

Section 1. Title 45, act of November 25, 1970 (P.L.707, No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, is amended by adding parts to read:

TITLE 45 LEGAL NOTICES

Part

- I. Preliminary Provisions
- II. Publication and Effectiveness of Commonwealth Documents

PART I PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

Chapter

l. General Provisions

3. Legal Advertising

CHAPTER 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec.

101. Definitions.

§ 101. Definitions.

(a) Definitions applicable to printing or newspaper advertising laws.—Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent provisions of this title which are applicable to specific provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when used in:

(1) this title; or

(2) any other law relating to printing or newspaper advertising;

shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this subsection:

"Advertisement." A printed public notice, relating to any matter, authorized by any person, which is published for a valuable consideration in a publication, and which may be required by law, rule, order, or decree of court, or resolution of any corporation, or unincorporated association, or by action of any government unit.

"Advertiser." Any person who orders and directs a notice or advertisement to be printed or published in a publication.

"Advertising rule." The line between, or which separates, any two advertisements or notices.

"Agate." A type 5 ½ type points in depth or height.

"Bourgeois." A type 9 type points in depth or height.

"Brevier." A type 8 type points in depth or height.

"Carrier." A person engaged for hire in the delivery of publications. "Circulation." The number of copies printed, issued, sold, or subscribed for, by the day, week, month, or year, at a particular price for each copy, or for a series of issues over a definite period by any publication, but the term does not include copies exchanged for other publications or copies or issues circulated gratuitously.

"Classified advertising." Intelligence or notices, published and printed in small or inconspicuous type, as advertising, classed with similar notices of advertising, and for which compensation is intended to be charged.

"Class magazine" or "class newspaper." A printed paper or publication containing class, professional, trade, commercial, technical, scientific, educational, religious, financial, legal or other matter and intelligence, intended to be disseminated exclusively among subscribers or readers concerned or interested in the subject matters published.

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"Column." A single unit or upright section, of the total height of the type printed page, as separated from the remainder of the page by a line, rule, or space, and not less than ten ems pica in width.

"Column rule." The printed line between, or which separates, the printed columns of any type page.

"Court." A court or tribunal of record, established for the public administration of justice under the provisions of the Constitution of Pennsylvania or any statute.

"Daily newspaper." A newspaper regularly published at least five days in the week, either including or excluding Sundays and legal holidays.

"Decree." A decision, judgment, order or sentence of any court.

"Display advertising." Intelligence made conspicuous, and designated by either reading matter, printed from various sizes, kinds and styles of types or illustrations, and printed or published for a compensation, demanded or intended to be received from those interested in, affected or served by, the subject matter published.

"Em." A square of a type, or a space equal to the square of the depth or height of a particular type, as measured by the number of points in height of the type.

"Journal." A newspaper, class newspaper, periodical, or magazine.

"Law." A statute, a home rule charter, or an enactment entitled an ordinance, resolution, rule or regulation of any government unit.

"Legal advertisement." A notice, advertisement, publication, statement, or abstract of a notice, advertisement, publication, or statement, required by resolution of a corporation, unincorporated association, or government unit, or ordinance of a political subdivision, or by law, or by rule, order, or decree of court, to be published, for a valuable consideration, in either a newspaper of general circulation, a legal newspaper or an official newspaper.

"Legal newspaper." A newspaper which is a "legal periodical," "official legal newspaper," or "official legal periodical," publishing legal intelligence, as designated by general rule or rule of court for the publication of legal advertisements and notices required by law, rule, order, or decree of court, to be published in a legal newspaper, legal periodical, official legal newspaper, or official legal periodical, so designated by general rule or rule of court.

"Legal notice." When required to be printed or published, either a legal advertisement, a legal notice, an official advertisement, or an official legal notice.

"Liners." Advertisements, published as reading notices, intelligence, or announcements for which compensation is intended to be charged to those interested in the publication thereof.

"Long primer." A type 10 type points in depth or height.

"Magazine." Partakes of the nature of a periodical.

"Minion." A type 7 type points in depth or height.

"News." Narrative, or recent intelligence, disseminating current information as to local, general, or world-wide happenings, concerning any person or persons, matters of private or public interest, or concerning any matters affecting the public welfare.

"Newspaper."

(1)A printed paper or publication, bearing a title or name, and conveying reading or pictorial intelligence of passing events, local or general happenings, printing regularly or irregularly editorial comment, announcements, miscellaneous reading matter, commercial advertising, classified advertising, legal advertising, and other notices, and which has been issued in numbers of four or more pages at short intervals, either daily, twice or oftener each week, or weekly, continuously during a period of at least six months, or as the successor of such a printed paper or publication issued during an immediate prior period of at least six months, and which has been circulated and distributed from an established place of business to subscribers or readers without regard to number, for a definite price or consideration, either entered or entitled to be entered under the Postal Rules and Regulations as second class matter in the United States mails, and subscribed for by readers at a fixed price for each copy, or at a price fixed per annum. A newspaper may be either a daily newspaper, weekly newspaper, newspaper of general circulation, official newspaper, or a legal newspaper, as defined in this section. Continuous publication within the meaning of this section shall not be deemed interrupted by any involuntary suspension of publication resulting from loss, destruction, failure or unavailability of operating facilities, equipment or personnel from whatever cause, and any newspaper so affected shall not be disqualified to publish official and legal advertising in the event that publication is resumed within one week after it again becomes possible.

(2) A printed paper or publication, regardless of size, contents, or time of issue, or number of copies issued, distributed and circulated gratuitously, is not a newspaper.

(3) A printed paper or publication, not entitled to be entered, or which has been denied entry, as second class matter in the United States mails under the Postal Rules and Regulations of the United States is not a newspaper.

"Newspaper of general circulation." A newspaper issued daily, or not less than once a week, intended for general distribution and circulation, and sold at fixed prices per copy per week, per month, or per annum, to subscribers and readers without regard to business, trade, profession or class.

"Nonpareil." A type 6 type points in depth or height.

"Notice." A formal printed announcement, transmitting intelligence, information, or warning, to a particular person, or generally to all persons who may read such notice.

12. · . .

"Official advertisement." A notice, advertisement, publication, or statement, or an abstract of a notice, advertisement, publication, or statement, required to be made by law, rule, order, or decree of court, by any person, or in the conduct of the business of a private or public corporation, or on the order of any government unit, or in the performance of any official duty imposed by law, rule, order, or decree of court, resolution or ordinance.

"Official advertising and legal advertising." Any advertisement, notice, statement, report, resolution, ordinance, or abstract of the same, required by law, rule, order or decree of court, by resolution of any board of directors, shareholders or officers of any corporation or unincorporated association, or any government unit to be printed and published for a valuable consideration in a newspaper.

"Official newspaper." A newspaper designated by a government unit for the publication of notices and statements required by rule, order, resolution, or ordinance of such unit.

"Ordinance." A municipal rule or regulation, adopted in the manner required by statute or home rule charter, by the lawfully constituted officers of any political subdivision or municipal or other local authority.

"Periodical." A printed paper or publication, issued in pamphlet or book form, regardless of page size or number of pages, at stated or regular intervals of more than one day between each issue, containing either general, class, trade, technical, scientific, serial articles, or other reading matter, advertising, et cetera, and entitled to be entered as second class matter in the United States mails under the Postal Rules and Regulations of the United States.

"Pica." A type 12 type points in depth or height.

"Point." A unit of measurement for determining the height of a type, letter, figure, or other character, or the width of a rule, as heretofore generally known and fixed by general agreement of certain type founders and manufacturers, at 0.0138 inch in length.

"Proof of publication." A printed or written statement, declaring the name of a newspaper of general circulation, a legal newspaper or an official newspaper, as defined in this section, its place of business, when the same was established, the date or dates, and issue or issues, in which a printed notice or publication appeared, and to which is securely attached, exactly as printed or published, a copy of the official advertisement, official notice, legal notice, or legal advertisement, verified with a statement of the owner, publisher, or the designated agent of the owner or publisher, of such publication in which the official or legal advertisement or notice was published, duly sworn to before a person authorized to administer oaths, and also declaring that the affiant is not interested in the subject matter of the notice or advertising, and that all of the allegations of the statement as to the time, place, and character of publication are true. "Publication."

(1) The act of printing a notice, advertisement, or proclamation, for the purpose of disseminating information to the people at large.

(2) A journal, magazine, newspaper, class newspaper or periodical. "Rate." The price or sum fixed for printing and publishing either official, legal, or commercial advertising, and may be either a price or sum fixed for a single reading line in a single column, or for a space of the depth of one inch in a single column, or it may mean the particular stated sums or prices fixed for printing and publishing official or legal advertising, where the style and form does not vary except for the names and addresses of the interested parties, such as notices of applications for charters of incorporation, shareholders' meetings', executors', administrators' or auditors' notices, register of wills' audit notices, obituary or death notices, et cetera.

"Reading matter." News or other printed matter, intended to be read, as distinguished from intelligence notices, announcements, display advertising, or advertising published for a compensation.

"Resolution." A formal agreement or consent to do or not to do a certain thing, which has been recorded upon the minutes or records of a government unit, or by either the shareholders, board of directors or other body of a corporation, or by the members, directors, managers, or trustees of an unincorporated association or society of individuals.

"Rule." Any formal order or direction made by a tribunal or other government unit.

"Sample copy." A copy of a publication distributed without charge or expense to prospective subscribers or advertisers, in numbers limited by the United States Postal Rules and Regulations governing second class mail matter.

"Small pica." A type 11 type points in depth or height.

"Space." The length and breadth of a printed type page, or any subdivision thereof, intended to be used for either news or advertising matter of any kind.

"Subscriber." A person who buys or orders verbally or by written subscription, or accepts upon delivery from the United States mails or a carrier, issues or copies of any publication.

"Type." A piece of metal or wood from which either a letter, figure, or other character is impressed with ink upon paper, or an image of such a character.

"Weekly newspaper." A newspaper issued at least once a week.

(b) Other definitions.—Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent provisions of this title which are applicable to specific provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this subsection:

"Commonwealth agency." The Governor and the departments, boards, commissions, authorities and other officers and agencies of the

Commonwealth government, but the term does not include any court or other officer or agency of the unified judicial system, or the General Assembly and its officers and agencies.

"Commonwealth government." The government of the Commonwealth, including the courts and other officers or agencies of the unified judicial system, the General Assembly and its officers and agencies, the Governor, and the departments, boards, commissions, authorities and officers and agencies of the Commonwealth, but the term does not include any political subdivision, municipal or other local authority, or any officer or agency of any such political subdivision or local authority.

"General rule." A rule or order promulgated by or pursuant to the authority of the Supreme Court.

"Government unit." The Commonwealth government, and any political subdivision or municipal or other local authority, or any officer or agency of any such political subdivision or local authority.

"Rule of court." A rule promulgated by a court regulating the practice or procedure before the promulgating court.

CHAPTER 3 LEGAL ADVERTISING

Sec.

- 301. Short title of chapter.
- 302. Scope and interpretation of chapter.
- 303. Level of advertising rates.
- 304. Establishment and change of advertising rates.
- 305. Charges taxable as costs and administration expenses.
- 306. Use of trade publications.
- 307. Effect of failure to advertise when required.
- 308. Additional publication in legal journals.
- 309. Inclusion of common geographical names.
- 310. No unauthorized advertisements to be published.
- § 301. Short title of chapter.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Newspaper Advertising Act."

§ 302. Scope and interpretation of chapter.

The provisions of this chapter are intended to be a comprehensive statute:

(1) Creating uniformity in the publication of legal notices, official advertisements, and advertisements, or abstracts of any notice, statement, or advertisement required by law, rule, order or decree of court to be published in a newspaper.

(2) Defining the publications in which official and legal advertising shall be published.

(3) Prescribing methods for computing the charges therefor.

(4) Providing that the expenses for publishing legal advertising or notices shall be taxable and collectible as costs in all matters except as otherwise provided by general rules.

(5) Establishing a uniform method for determining the cost of legal advertising and legal notices, where rates, circulation of the particular publication, size of columns or pages, and kind or size of type used vary, in newspapers of different localities in this Commonwealth.

§ 303. Level of advertising rates.

(a) General rule.—All official and legal advertising shall be charged for at an established or declared rate or price per single column, line of reading matter measured in depth by the point system, or at a rate or price per inch single column. When such official and legal advertising is not classified and is not published according to prescribed or recognized forms, and no rate has been established or declared, such rate for official and legal advertising shall not be in excess of the rates usually charged or received by the publication publishing such official and legal advertising for commercial, general, or other advertising.

(b) Exception.—Where official and legal advertising is usually and ordinarily published according to recognized or prescribed forms, or particular matters are itemized and classified under general headings, subsection (a) shall not prohibit the fixing of definite prices or sums for publishing official and legal advertising, regardless of the number of single column lines or space required for each item, notice, or advertisement published in any separate matter or proceeding, and regardless of rates established, fixed, charged or received for commercial, general or other advertising. The purpose of this subsection is to enable newspapers to take into consideration, as elements, when fixing advertising rates or charges, location of the advertisement in the newspaper, the purpose to be served, the character of the advertising, and that a newspaper is entitled to compensation for its readiness at all times to render an advertising service. § 304. Establishment and change of advertising rates.

All newspapers of general circulation, official newspapers and legal newspapers accepting and publishing official and legal advertising, are hereby required to fix and establish rates and charges for official, legal and all other kinds of advertising, offered or accepted for publication, and such publications shall furnish, on demand, to any person having use for the same, detailed schedules, stating the rates and charges which shall be deemed to be in force and effect until changed or altered, and, when changed or altered, such publication shall give the person authorized or required to publish advertising, before demanding or receiving compensation at any increased rate, notice that the rates and charges of such publication for advertising have been changed or abrogated, and that increased advertising rates and charges have been established or fixed. § 305. Charges taxable as costs and administration expenses.

Except as otherwise provided by general rule, all charges, costs, and expenses incurred, including the fees for affidavits to proofs of publication, for official and legal advertising in any matter by any person shall be taxable, collectible and payable as other court costs and expenses of administration are required by law to be taxed, collected, and paid, upon all decrees of court. § 306. Use of trade publications.

(a) General rule.—Any government unit which is required by law to advertise for bids for public works, contracts, supplies or equipment, may, in its discretion, authorize the publication of such advertising, in addition to the newspapers authorized by the other provisions of this chapter, also in any publication or journal devoted to the dissemination of information about construction work published in this Commonwealth at least once a week and circulating among contractors, manufacturers and dealers doing business in the community in which such public works are to be constructed or supplies or equipment purchased.

(b) Exception. — Except with respect to publication by any city of third class or borough, no advertisement for bids for public works, contracts, supplies or equipment shall be inserted in any publication or journal devoted to the dissemination of information about construction work, unless such publication meets the following requirements:

(1) It has been established and regularly issued from a printing office and publication house in this Commonwealth for a period of at least 18 months.

(2) It has been entered, or entitled to be entered, for admission to the United States mails as second class matter.

(3) It has had a bona fide income from subscribers within this Commonwealth of not less than \$15,000 per annum, duly certified by a public accountant.

(4) The rates and charges for such advertising shall not be in excess of those of newspapers of general circulation of a like circulation published in the community in which the public works are to be constructed or the supplies or equipment purchased.

§ 307. Effect of failure to advertise when required.

No legal proceeding, matter, or case in which notice is required to be given by official or legal advertising, shall be binding and effective upon any interested person unless such official and legal advertising is printed and published in the newspapers of general circulation, official newspapers, and legal newspapers defined by this title, in the manner and as required by statute, and by any rule, order, or decree of court, resolution of a corporation, or unincorporated association, or ordinance, rule, or regulation of any government unit, in the proper newspapers of general circulation, official newspapers, and legal newspapers, defined by this title, and a proof of publication is filed of record in such matter or proceeding. § 308. Additional publication in legal journals.

(a) General rule.—Except as otherwise provided by statute, every notice or advertisement required by law or rule of court to be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation, unless dispensed with by special order of court, shall also be published in the legal newspaper, issued at least weekly, in the county, designated by rules of court for the publication of court or other legal notices, if such newspaper exists. Publication in such legal newspaper shall be made as often as required to be made in such newspapers in general circulation, and shall be subject to the same stipulations and regulations as those imposed for the like services upon all newspapers.

(b) Exceptions.—

(1) Subsection (a) shall not require the publication in such legal newspapers of municipal ordinances, municipal or county auditors' or controllers' reports, school district auditors' or controllers' reports, or summaries or statements thereof, mercantile appraisers' notice, advertising for bids for contracts for public work, materials or supplies, or lists of delinquent taxpayers.

(2) Publication of election notices in legal newspapers shall be governed by the provisions of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the "Pennsylvania Election Code."

§ 309. Inclusion of common geographical names.

(a) General rule.—Whenever official advertising or legal advertising involves a road, street, highway, bridge, municipality, village or boundary, the advertisement shall, in order that it may readily be understood by inhabitants of the area involved, include the common, local or general usage designation of every such road, street, highway, bridge, municipality, village or boundary.

(b) Mistake.—The inclusion of a common local or general language designation for the purpose of complying with subsection (a), if mistaken or erroneous, shall not invalidate any matter or proceeding which in all other respects is properly and lawfully executed.

§ 310. No unauthorized advertisements to be published.

No advertisement shall be published by any court or other government unit, which is not duly authorized by law, nor in more papers than so authorized.

PART II

PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMONWEALTH DOCUMENTS

Chapter

- 5. General Provisions
- 7. Codification and Publication of Documents
- 9. Effectiveness of Documents

CHAPTER 5 GENERAL PROVISIONS

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- 501. Definitions.
- 502. Joint Committee on Documents.
- 503. General administration of part.
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507. Form of citation.

508. Effect of future legislation.

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§ 501. Definitions.

Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent provisions of this part which are applicable to specific provisions of this part, the following words and phrases when used in this part shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

"Adjudication." Any order, decree, decision, determination or ruling by an agency affecting personal or property rights, privileges, immunities, duties, liabilities or obligations of any or all of the parties to the proceeding in which the adjudication is made.

"Administrative regulation." Any regulation except a proclamation, executive order, executive directive or other similar document promulgated by the Governor, and the term includes a regulation which may be promulgated by an agency only with the approval of the Governor.

"Agency." A Commonwealth agency.

"Agency text." The text of a document as issued, prescribed or promulgated by the issuing, prescribing or promulgating agency.

"Bulletin." The Pennsylvania Bulletin published under this part.

"Bureau." The Legislative Reference Bureau. The powers conferred by this part upon the bureau shall be exercised by the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, or, in his absence, by the Assistant Director thereof.

"Code." The Pennsylvania Code published under this part.

"Department." The Department of General Services.

"Document." Any proclamation, executive order, executive directive or similar instrument promulgated by the Governor, and any other order, regulation, rule, statement of policy, adjudication, certificate, license, permit, notice or similar instrument issued, prescribed or promulgated by or under the authority of this Commonwealth. The term shall also include any home rule charter heretofore or hereafter adopted by the electors of any part of this Commonwealth or any optional plan of government.

"Joint committee." The Joint Committee on Documents existing under this part.

"Official text." The text of a document issued, prescribed or promulgated by an agency as published by authority of this part which has become in the manner provided by this part the only valid and enforceable text of such document.

"Regulation." Any rule or regulation, or order in the nature of a rule or regulation, promulgated by an agency under statutory authority in the administration of any statute administered by or relating to the agency, or prescribing the practice or procedure before such agency. The term includes a proclamation, executive order, executive directive or other similar document promulgated by the Governor. "Statement of policy." Any document, except an adjudication or a regulation, promulgated by an agency which sets forth substantive or procedural personal or property rights, privileges, immunities, duties, liabilities or obligations of the public or any part thereof, and includes, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any document interpreting or implementing any statute enforced or administered by such agency. § 502. Joint Committee on Documents.

(a) Establishment.—The Joint Committee on Documents shall consist of five governmental members and two public members. The governmental members shall be the Attorney General, the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of General Services, or persons severally designated in writing by them. The public members shall be appointed by the Governor from among attorneys at law or other members of the public who represent the class who may be expected to refer to the documents published pursuant to this part. For the purposes of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as "The Administrative Code of 1929" and its supplements the joint committee shall be a departmental administrative board in the Department of General Services.

(b) Compensation.—The members of the joint committee shall serve without compensation other than reimbursement for travel and other actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

(c) Quorum and organization.—Four members of the joint committee shall constitute a quorum, and the committee shall select from among its members a chairman and a vice-chairman, and shall elect a secretary who need not be a member of the committee.

(d) Powers and duties.—The joint committee shall exercise the powers and perform the duties vested in and imposed upon it by this part and any other powers and duties vested in and imposed upon the committee by law. § 503. General administration of part.

Subject to the provisions of section 732 (relating to required contractual arrangements), the manner in which the code, the permanent supplements thereto, and the bulletin, shall be printed, reprinted, compiled, indexed, bound and distributed, and all other matters with respect thereto not otherwise provided for in this part shall be prescribed by regulations promulgated or orders adopted by the joint committee. The joint committee shall administer this part and Subchapter A of Chapter 3 of Title 2 (relating to regulations of Commonwealth agencies) with a view toward encouraging the widest possible dissemination of documents among the persons affected thereby which is consistent with the due administration of public affairs.

§ 504. Payment for documents.

Payments for documents published by authority of this part shall be made to the Department of General Services, which shall pay the same into the State Treasury through the Department of Revenue to the credit of the appropriations of the bureau and the department in such proportions as the joint committee shall specify. § 505. Distribution of publication expenses.

(a) General rule.—In order to reimburse the Legislative Reference Bureau for the cost of administering this part and in order to reimburse the Department of General Services for the expenses of the joint committee and for the costs incurred in printing and distributing the publications provided for in Subchapter B of Chapter 7 (relating to publication of documents) which are neither recovered by the sale of such publications to an agency under section 729 (relating to publication of individual documents) and section 731 (relating to automatic subscriptions) or to the public under section 504 (relating to payment for documents) nor paid by appropriations made directly to the bureau or the department for the costs and expenses of such administration, printing and distribution, every government unit issuing, prescribing or promulgating documents published by authority of this part shall be billed at least quarterly by the bureau and the Department of General Services, upon a cost basis, at such amounts as the joint committee with the approval of the Executive Board shall determine, for such costs and expenses. Amounts payable under this section for reimbursing the bureau and the department for the costs of administration and printing and distribution shall be credited to the appropriations of the bureau and the department respectively, and shall be paid out of the moneys in the General Fund, special operating funds, or other funds of the State Treasury currently appropriated to each such issuing, prescribing or promulgating government unit.

(b) Direct appropriation.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the right of the General Assembly to make annual appropriations to the bureau or the department, or both, for their total anticipated costs and expenses under this part.

§ 506. Judicial notice.

The contents of the code, of the permanent supplements thereto, and of the bulletin, shall be judicially noticed.

§ 507. Form of citation.

Without prejudice to any other mode of citation the code and permanent supplements thereto may be cited by title and section number, and the bulletin may be cited by volume and page number.

§ 508. Effect of future legislation.

No subsequent statute shall be held to supersede or modify the provisions of this part except to the extent that such statute shall do so expressly.

§ 509. Format of documents.

The agency text of all documents required to be deposited with the Legislative Reference Bureau by this part shall be in such form and format as may be prescribed by regulations promulgated by the joint committee.

CHAPTER 7

CODIFICATION AND PUBLICATION OF DOCUMENTS

Subchapter

- A. Codification of Regulations and Other Documents
- B. Publication of Documents

SUBCHAPTER A

CODIFICATION OF REGULATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Sec.

701. Official codification created.

702. Contents of Pennsylvania Code.

§ 701. Official codification created.

It shall be the duty of the Legislative Reference Bureau, subject to the policy supervision and direction of the joint committee, to compile, edit and supplement or to contract through the department for the compilation, editing and supplementation of an official legal codification, to be divided into titles of convenient size and scope, and to be known as the "Pennsylvania Code."

§ 702. Contents of Pennsylvania Code.

Except as otherwise provided by regulations promulgated by the joint committee, the following documents shall be codified in the code:

(1) All proclamations and executive orders of the Governor which are general and permanent in nature.

(2) All administrative and other regulations.

(3) All statements of policy which are general and permanent in nature.

(4) All documents or classes of documents required to be codified in the code by statute.

(5) All general rules and rules of court.

(6) Any other judicial document or class of documents which the governing authority of the unified judicial system finds to be general and permanent in nature.

(7) Any other document or class of documents which the Governor, the joint committee or the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau finds to be general and permanent in nature.

SUBCHAPTER B PUBLICATION OF DOCUMENTS

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- 721. Publication of official codification.
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- 725. Additional contents of Pennsylvania Bulletin.
- 726. Permanent supplements to Pennsylvania Code.
- 727. Matter not required to be published.
- 728. Matter not permitted to be published.
- 729. Publication of individual documents.
- 730. Pricing and distribution of published documents.
- 731. Automatic subscriptions.
- 732. Required contractual arrangements.

§ 721. Publication of official codification.

It shall be the duty of the Legislative Reference Bureau, subject to the policy supervision and direction of the joint committee, to arrange through the Department of General Services for the prompt printing and distribution of the code, the permanent supplements thereto and the bulletin, in the manner and at the times required in accordance with this subchapter and regulations promulgated hereunder.

§ 722. Deposit of documents required.

(a) General rule.—Two duplicate original copies, certified by the executive officer, chairman or secretary of the agency, or by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts or the clerk or prothonotary of the Supreme Court, in the case of a judicial document, of any document required or authorized to be published under this subchapter, shall be deposited with the Legislative Reference Bureau. If the bureau finds that such document has been approved as to legality, if such approval is required by 2 Pa.C.S. § 305 (relating to approval as to legality), and is in the form and format required by any applicable regulations promulgated under 2 Pa.C.S. § 306 (relating to format of regulations) or section 509 of this title (relating to format of documents), it shall file such document, assign thereto and indicate thereon a distinctive serial number, and indicate thereon the date and time of filing.

(b) Disposition of copies.—Upon such filing one copy shall be immediately available for public inspection and copying under regulations promulgated by the joint committee, which copy shall be retained by the bureau for one year after the publication thereof, whereupon it shall be forwarded to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for preservation in the Commonwealth archives. The other copy shall be transmitted immediately to the Department of General Services, or to a printer designated by it, for publication as provided in this subchapter.

Effect of failure to file.-Every agency, the Administrative Office of (c) Pennsylvania Courts and the clerk or prothonotary of the Supreme Court shall cause to be transmitted to the bureau for deposit as herein provided two certified duplicate original copies of all documents issued, prescribed or promulgated by the agency or the unified judicial system which are required by this subchapter to be deposited or published, or both; in default of which any such document, except a document subject to 2 Pa.C.S. § 308 (relating to unfiled administrative regulations invalid), shall be effective only to the extent provided in section 903 of this title (relating to effective date of documents). If an agency and the bureau disagree concerning the form or format of a document required or authorized to be deposited with the bureau, the agency may refer the matter to the joint committee, which shall resolve the conflict pursuant to the standards and procedures provided by section 723 of this title (relating to processing of deposited documents).

(d) Home rule charter documents and optional plans of government.--

(1) The clerk of the city council of any city of the first class shall cause a certified copy of the full text of any home rule charter or

amendment or repeal as approved by the electors to be filed in the Department of Community Affairs (and in the office of the secretary of the board of public education, in the case of a charter provision affecting the school district of the city) immediately following the final certification of the return of the votes cast on the question of the adoption, amendment or repeal of a home rule charter.

(2) In the case of any other political subdivision authorized to adopt a home rule charter or optional plan of government, the county board of elections shall file the documents relating thereto in the Department of Community Affairs and in other public offices as provided by the act of April 13, 1972 (P.L.184, No.62), known as the "Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law."

(3) The Department of Community Affairs shall, within ten days after receipt of any home rule charter or amendment or repeal or any optional plan of government as approved by the electors of any part of this Commonwealth, certify two duplicate original copies of the full text thereof and deposit such certified copies with the Legislative Reference Bureau.

§ 723. Processing of deposited documents.

Review of deposited text.—The bureau, or a qualified contractor (a) selected by the bureau with the approval of the joint committee, may review any or all documents deposited with the bureau before they are released for publication, and may prepare in active cooperation with an agency a revised text of any document relating to the administrative regulations of the agency which conforms fully to the format established for the code, which eliminates all obsolete, unnecessary or unauthorized material, which has been prepared in such a manner as to lend to the published code as a whole uniformity of style and clarity of expression, and which does not effect any change in the substance of the deposited text of such regulations. Whenever any such revised text with respect to each agency is prepared, two duplicate original copies thereof, with proof of service of a third copy thereof upon the executive officer, chairman or secretary of such agency, shall be filed by the bureau with the joint committee, and shall immediately be made available by the bureau for public inspection and copying.

(b) Status of revised text.—Such revised text shall become the agency text of such regulations for the purposes of this part ten days after such filing unless, within such ten-day period, the agency shall file with the joint committee written objections to such revised text. In that event, the joint committee shall consult with the agency, shall make such alterations, if any, in such revised text as may be necessary in order to retain the substance of the deposited text of such regulations in a manner consistent with the standards of the code, and shall by order prescribe the text of such regulations which shall become the agency text thereof for the purposes of this part.

§ 724. Preliminary publication in Pennsylvania Bulletin.

(a) General rule.—Except as provided in subsection (c), all documents required or authorized by section 702 (relating to contents of Pennsylvania

Code) to be codified in the code, and all other documents required or authorized by section 725 (relating to additional contents of Pennsylvania Bulletin) to be published, shall be published in the first available issue of an official gazette, known as the "Pennsylvania Bulletin," printed after the filing of such documents by the Legislative Reference Bureau.

(b) Frequency and format of bulletin.—The bulletin shall be published at least once each week and shall contain all previously unpublished documents duly filed prior to the closing date and hour of the issue, which date and hour shall appear upon the first page of such issue. All issues of the bulletin shall contain a table of contents. A cumulative index shall be published at least once each three months. The joint committee may provide for more frequent publication of the bulletin and indices as circumstances may require. There shall be printed with each document a notation of the date of filing thereof.

(c) Official synopsis.—The joint committee may provide for the publication of an official synopsis of a document in the bulletin in lieu of the full text thereof in any case where the full text of such document will be published pursuant to section 726 (relating to permanent supplements to Pennsylvania Code) within 120 days of the publication of such official synopsis.

§ 725. Additional contents of Pennsylvania Bulletin.

(a) General rule.—Except as otherwise provided by regulations promulgated by the joint committee the following documents, if not otherwise required to be published by this part, shall be published in the bulletin:

(1) All proclamations and executive orders of the Governor, except such as have no general applicability and legal effect or are effective only against Commonwealth agencies or persons in their capacity as officers, agents or employees thereof.

(2) All agency notices directed to the public with respect to proceedings conducted under any statute the expense of the administration of which is by law assessed directly against the class of persons regulated or supervised thereunder.

(3) All agency documents which are required by law to be published, or the expense of publication of which is specially assumed by the agency filing such document.

(4) Any legislative document filed with the Legislative Reference Bureau pursuant to a resolution adopted by either House of the General Assembly.

(5) Any judicial document filed with the Legislative Reference Bureau by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts.

(6) Any other document or class of documents which the Governor, the joint committee or the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau may require or authorize to be published in the bulletin.

(b) Power to require publication of certain documents in the bulletin.—Whenever the joint committee finds, after notice to the agency

affected and opportunity for hearing, that public notice of any agency action or proceeding or class of actions or proceedings is required by due process of law, or in the discretion of the joint committee should otherwise be given for the information of the public, the joint committee may by regulation require the agency to prepare and deposit under this part notice of each such action or proceeding at such time and containing in each case such information as the regulations of the joint committee may require. If an agency fails to deposit a notice required pursuant to this subsection the action of the agency or the results of the proceeding shall not be valid for any purpose.

§ 726. Permanent supplements to Pennsylvania Code.

(a) General rule.—At least once each year all documents required or authorized pursuant to section 702 (relating to contents of Pennsylvania Code) to be codified in the code which have been filed with the bureau pursuant to this part shall be permanently integrated into the code by the publication of looseleaf pages or pocket parts for or other appropriate permanent supplements to or reissues of the code as published pursuant to section 721 (relating to publication of official codification). The index to the code shall be similarly supplemented or reissued.

(b) Annotations.—The Legislative Reference Bureau may prepare, or may secure by contract, and incorporate into the permanent supplements to the code annotations of judicial decisions relating to any class of documents published in the code.

§ 727. Matter not required to be published.

Except as otherwise provided by regulations promulgated by the joint committee, whenever a document incorporates by reference any portion of the text of any of the following publications the Legislative Reference Bureau, unless the agency specifies otherwise in its order adopting the document, shall omit the text of such incorporated material from the text of the document as published in the code, the permanent supplements thereto, and the bulletin:

- (1) Statutes at Large.
- (2) United States Code.
- (3) Laws of Pennsylvania.
- (4) Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes.
- (5) Code of Federal Regulations.
- (6) Federal Register.

(7) Any uniform system of accounts published by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

(8) Any generally available standard published by any of the standardizing organizations listed in United States Department of Commerce Miscellaneous Publication 288, issued August 1, 1967, or supplements thereto or reissues thereof.

(9) Any other generally available publication approved by the bureau.

§ 728. Matter not permitted to be published.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this part no press release, speech, or other unofficial comments or news material shall be published in the code, the permanent supplements thereto, or in the bulletin.

§ 729. Publication of individual documents.

(a) General rule.—The code and the permanent supplements thereto shall be published pursuant to typographical and contractual arrangements which shall ensure to every agency and the unified judicial system an opportunity to procure at reasonable cost individually printed pamphlet copies of the regulations, statements of policy, general rules and rules of court of such agency or the unified judicial system published by authority of this part.

(b) Approval required for special format.—No administrative regulation, statement of policy, general rule or rule of court published in the code or the permanent supplement thereto shall be reset or otherwise reprinted at public expense upon a format distinct from that of the code without a certification by the joint committee that such special format is necessary for the effective performance by the agency or the unified judicial system of its functions.

§ 730. Pricing and distribution of published documents.

The prices to be charged for individual copies of and subscriptions to the code, the permanent supplements thereto and the bulletin, for reprints and bound volumes thereof and for pamphlet regulations, statements of policy, general rules and rules of court, which prices may be fixed without reference to the restrictions placed upon and fixed for the sale of other publications of the Commonwealth, and the number of copies which shall be distributed free for official use, shall be set by regulations promulgated by the joint committee. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such regulations may provide for volume discounts available to established law book publishers who agree to incorporate fully the code, the permanent supplements thereto and the bulletin into their general scheme of promotion and distribution and may provide for the free reciprocal exchange of publications between this Commonwealth and other states and foreign jurisdictions and for the free distribution upon request of at least one copy of every publication printed under authority of this part to each:

(1) County for the use of its law library.

(2) Member of the General Assembly at the post office address specified by him.

(3) Law school library which pursuant to rules of court receives copies of reproduced briefs and records filed in the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

§ 731. Automatic subscriptions.

Except as otherwise provided by regulations promulgated by the joint committee, whenever the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, the Department of Banking, the Insurance Department or any other agency assesses, pursuant to authority expressly conferred by law, the cost or any substantial part thereof of the regulation or supervision of any class of persons directly against such class of persons, such agency shall purchase from the Department of General Services in the name of each such person:

(1) a subscription to the bulletin; and

(2) a subscription to the title or part thereof of the code and the permanent supplements thereto relating to the regulation or supervision of such class of persons;

and shall include in its assessment bills issued to each such class of persons the estimated cost (notwithstanding any other provision of law requiring such assessment to be retrospective) and the net unrecovered cost attributable to any preceding period, of complying with this section.

§ 732. Required contractual arrangements.

(a) General rule.—Except as otherwise provided by statute finally enacted after July 1, 1969 applicable to public printing and binding generally:

(1) the code;

(2) the permanent supplements thereto published pursuant to section 726 (relating to permanent supplements to Pennsylvania Code);

(3) pamphlet copies of regulations, statements of policy, general rules and rules of court published pursuant to section 729 (relating to publication of individual documents); and

(4) the bulletin (unless the application of this section to the bulletin is found to be impracticable by the joint committee after notice in the bulletin and opportunity for hearing) published pursuant to section 724 (relating to preliminary publication in Pennsylvania Bulletin) and section 725 (relating to additional contents of Pennsylvania Bulletin); shall be printed or reproduced under contract with a contractor unaffiliated with the Commonwealth.

(b) Competitive bidding.—Every such contract shall be given, after reasonable public invitation for proposals, to the lowest responsible bidder below such maximum price and under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the joint committee.

(c) Conflict of interest.—No officer or employee of the Commonwealth shall be in any way interested in any purchase made by the Commonwealth under any such contract or otherwise.

(d) Definitions.—For the purposes of this section the terms "printed" or "reproduced" shall not include mimeographed, multilithed or reproduced by any similar in-house process or produced by computer.

CHAPTER 9 EFFECTIVENESS OF DOCUMENTS

Sec.

- 901. Official text of published documents.
- 902. Certification of official text.
- 903. Effective date of documents.

- 904. Constructive notice.
- 905. Presumptions created.
- 906. Reasonable notice of hearing.
- 907. Additional notice unnecessary.
- § 901. Official text of published documents.

(a) General rule.—The official text, as published as provided in Subchapter B of Chapter 7 (relating to publication of documents), of any document required or authorized to be published in the code, the permanent supplements thereto, or the bulletin, shall from the date of such publication be the only valid and enforceable text of such document regardless of any discrepancy between such official text and the agency text of such document. Thereafter any amendment to such document shall be drawn as an amendment to the official text thereof. If an agency discovers a discrepancy between the agency text and the official text of a document, the agency shall forthwith deposit, without regard to the requirements of 2 Pa.C.S. § 301 (relating to notice of proposed rule making) and 2 Pa.C.S. § 302 (relating to adoption of administrative regulations) with the Legislative Reference Bureau an appropriate corrective amendment to the official text, and the agency may specify that such amendment shall be effective as of the effective date of the defective official text, but only persons who have had actual knowledge of the discrepancy shall be affected by such amendment prior to the publication of the official text thereof in the manner prescribed in this part. The purpose of this section is to permit the public to rely absolutely upon the correctness of the text of a regulation, statement of policy or other document as published in the code, the supplements thereto, or the bulletin by declaring such published text to be the only legal evidence of the valid and enforceable text of such regulation, statement of policy or other document.

(b) Home rule charter documents and optional plans of government.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the text of any home rule charter amendment or repeal or any optional plan of government, as published as provided in Subchapter B of Chapter 7, shall from the date of such publication be prima facie evidence of the text of the home rule charter, amendment or repeal, or of the plan of government approved by the electors.

§ 902. Certification of official text.

Each title or part of the code and each permanent supplement thereto shall contain a certificate by the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau that such title or part or permanent supplement thereto contains all documents required pursuant to section 702 (relating to contents of Pennsylvania Code) to be codified therein officially filed for public inspection prior to the closing date of such permanent supplement, by the government unit or units to which such title or part relates, which certificate shall be conclusive evidence of such fact in the case of documents issued, prescribed or promulgated by an agency. If an agency discovers an omission in such title or part, such omission shall be governed by the provisions of section 901 (relating to official text of published documents). § 903. Effective date of documents.

(a) General rule.—No document, except a document which is excluded from the operation of this subsection by subsection (b), which is required to be published under this part, shall be valid as against any person who has not had actual knowledge thereof until such publication has been effected. Publication shall be deemed to have been effected upon the deposit of the bulletin or the permanent supplement to the code containing such document in the United States mail for distribution. The issue date of the bulletin and of the permanent supplement to the code shall be the day of such deposit, and, in the case of the bulletin, such date shall be printed prominently upon the first page of each issue thereof.

(b) Certain judicial documents.—Judicial documents (including general rules) which are not adopted pursuant to statutory authority shall be effective as provided by general rule. General rules and other judicial documents which are adopted pursuant to statutory authority shall be fully subject to subsection (a).

§ 904. Constructive notice.

Unless otherwise specifically provided by statute other than a provision of this title, the publication under this part of any document required or authorized by this part to be so published shall, except in cases where notice by publication is insufficient in law, be sufficient to give notice of the contents of such document to any person subject thereto or affected thereby.

§ 905. Presumptions created.

The publication in the code, the permanent supplements thereto, or the bulletin of any document shall create a rebuttable presumption:

(1) That it was duly issued, prescribed or promulgated.

- (2) That it was approved as to legality, if so required by 2 Pa.C.S.
- § 305 (relating to approval as to legality) by the Department of Justice.

(3) That all requirements of Subchapter A of Chapter 3 of Title 2 (relating to regulations of Commonwealth agencies) and of this part and the regulations promulgated thereunder applicable to such document have been complied with.

§ 906. Reasonable notice of hearing.

Whenever notice of hearing or of opportunity to be heard is required or authorized to be given by the Commonwealth government by or under any statute, or may otherwise properly be given, the notice, except in cases where notice by publication is insufficient in law, shall be deemed to have been given to all persons residing within this Commonwealth, and to all persons owning or having any interest in any property situated within the limits thereof, if said notice shall be published in the bulletin at such time that the period between the date of publication as specified in section 903(a) (relating to effective date of documents) and the date fixed in such notice for the hearing or for the termination of the opportunity to be heard shall be: (1) not less than the time specified for the publication of the notice by the appropriate statute; or

(2) not less than 15 days when no time for publication is specified by statute, without prejudice, however, to the effectiveness of any notice of less than 15 days where such shorter period is reasonable.

§ 907. Additional notice unnecessary.

(a) General rule.—Except with respect to the time specified for the publication of notice, the publication by the Commonwealth government of any notice in the manner provided by this part shall constitute full compliance with law notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of any statute.

(b) Additional notice if not prohibited.—Nothing in this part shall prohibit the Commonwealth government from giving notice in such manner, or if notice has been given in the manner prescribed by this part, in such supplemental manner, as is not inconsistent with regulations promulgated by the joint committee with respect to Commonwealth agencies.

Section 2. Conforming amendment to Title 1.—Section 1991 of Title 1, added December 6, 1972 (P.L.1339, No.290), is amended by adding a definition to read:

§ 1991. Definitions.

The following words and phrases, when used in any statute finally enacted on or after September 1, 1937, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:

* * *

"Registered mail." When used in any statute finally enacted before or after September 1, 1937, includes certified mail. * * *

Section 3. Certification and admissibility in evidence of official records.—(a) Official documents, records and papers kept by the Legislative Reference Bureau pursuant to any requirement of law, or any entries therein, when admissible in evidence for any purpose, may be evidenced by the official publication thereof or by copies which have been duly certified by the Director or the Assistant Director of the Bureau.

(b) A written statement that, after examination of the documents, records and papers of the Bureau, no record or entry of a specified tenor is found to exist, authenticated as provided in subsection (a), is admissible as evidence that the documents, records and papers contain no such record or entry.

(c) It shall be the duty of the Director or Assistant Director of the Bureau, upon receipt or acceptable provision for payment of the fees established therefor, to cause a copy of the document, record or paper, or a statement that no such record or entry is found to exist, to be made and authenticated as provided in subsection (a) and to deliver such copy or statement to any person entitled thereto.

(d) A copy of a record of filing or publication of a document or the absence of filing or publication of a document, authenticated as provided in subsection (a), shall be admissible as evidence that the filing or publication of a document or absence of filing or publication of a document disclosed therein was in fact taken or omitted.

(e) Unless directed otherwise by the court or the presiding officer of the government agency, whichever is applicable, delivery to the court or agency of a certification issued under this section shall constitute sufficient compliance with a subpoena directing an officer or employee of the Bureau to appear for the purpose of presenting testimony or producing documents relating to matters set forth in the certification or accompanying documents.

(f) Whenever a certification is issued by the Bureau pursuant to the provisions of this section, the Bureau shall charge a reasonable fee for such certification. The Director of the Bureau shall determine and establish by regulation the amount of the certification fee.

Section 4. Conversion of references pending codification of Title 2.—Pending codification of Title 2 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes (relating to administrative law and procedure) a reference in Title 45 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to "Subchapter A of Chapter 3 of Title 2 (relating to regulations of Commonwealth agencies)" shall be deemed a reference to sections 102 and 201 through 208 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.769, No.240), known as the "Commonwealth Documents Law," and a reference to "2 Pa.C.S. § 301 (relating to notice of proposed rule making)," "2 Pa.C.S. § 302 (relating to adoption of administrative regulations)," "2 Pa.C.S. § 305 (relating to approval as to legality)," "2 Pa.C.S. § 306 (relating to format of regulations)," or "2 Pa.C.S. § 308 (relating to unfiled administrative regulations invalid)" shall be deemed to be a reference to sections 201, 202, 205, 206, or 208 of said act, respectively.

Section 5. Advertising by third class city in two counties.—Where official and legal advertising is required of a third class city located in two counties, such advertising shall be binding and effective if done in the newspapers of general circulation, official newspapers and legal newspapers, as defined in Title 45 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes (relating to legal notices), published in the county where such city was incorporated.

Section 6. Objections to revised text of previously filed regulations.—Notwithstanding 45 Pa.C.S. § 723(b) (relating to status of revised text) an agency may file written objections with the joint committee within 60 days after receiving the revised text of any regulations not previously published in the Pennsylvania Code which were filed in the Legislative Reference Bureau prior to the enactment of this act.

Section 7. Specific repeals.—The following acts and parts of acts are hereby repealed absolutely:

Section 2, act of May 6, 1874 (P.L.124, No.58), entitled "An act to regulate the manner of advertising for the state, and the issuing of warrants therefor."

Section 1, act of May 3, 1909 (P.L.424, No.237), entitled, as amended, "An act providing that in all counties, advertisements and notices, required by law or rules of court to be published in newspapers of general circulation, unless dispensed with by special order of court, shall be published in the legal newspaper, issued at least weekly, of the proper county, designated by rules of court for the publication of court or other legal notices."

Act of May 16, 1929 (P.L.1784, No.587), known as the "Newspaper Advertising Act."

Section 1, act of June 22, 1931 (P.L.845, No.275), entitled "An act authorizing the publication of advertisements for bids for public works, supplies or equipment in certain publications and journals devoted to information about construction work."

Section 1916, act of June 23, 1931 (P.L.932, No.317), known as "The Third Class City Code."

Section 1810, act of June 24, 1931 (P.L.1206, No.331), known as "The First Class Township Code."

Section 809, act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as "The Second Class Township Code."

Section 512, act of May 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the "Public School Code of 1949."

Second sentence of section 12, act of April 21, 1949 (P.L.665, No.155), known as the "First Class City Home Rule Act."

Act of September 8, 1959 (P.L.829, No.323), entitled "An act authorizing the use of certified mail in lieu of registered mail."

Second sentence of section 13, act of August 9, 1963 (P.L.643, No.341), known as the "First Class City Public Education Home Rule Act."

Section 1409, act of February 1, 1966 (1965 P.L.1656, No.581), known as "The Borough Code."

Section 101, sections 301 through 601, section 602 (except with respect to the continuing appropriation), sections 603 through 611 and, if sections 201 through 208 thereof are repealed absolutely by any other statute, section 102, act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.769, No.240), known as the "Commonwealth Documents Law."

Second sentence of section 502, act of July 23, 1970 (P.L.563, No.195), known as the "Public Employe Relations Act."

Section 8. General repeal.—All other parts of those acts which are specified in section 2 of this act and all other acts and parts of acts are hereby repealed in so far as inconsistent with this act.

Section 9. Effective date.—This act shall take effect in 60 days.

APPROVED—The 9th day of July, A. D. 1976.

MILTON J. SHAPP