

No. 1985-75

## AN ACT

HB 969

Amending the act of December 1, 1977 (P.L.249, No.83), entitled "An act prohibiting employers from firing employees who lose time from employment in the line of duty as volunteer firemen and providing penalties," further providing for actions to enforce the provisions of this act; and providing for damages.

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

Section 1. Section 5 of the act of December 1, 1977 (P.L.249, No.83), entitled "An act prohibiting employers from firing employees who lose time from employment in the line of duty as volunteer firemen and providing penalties," is amended to read:

Section 5. Any employer who willfully and knowingly violates the provisions of this act shall be required to reinstate such employee to his former position and shall be required to pay such employee all lost wages and benefits for the period between termination and reinstatement *and any reasonable attorney fees which are incurred in an action to recover lost wages and benefits*. Any action to enforce the provisions of this act shall be commenced within the period of two years within the date of violation and such action shall be commenced in the court of common pleas *of the county* in which the employer is located.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 6th day of November, A. D. 1985.

DICK THORNBURGH