

No. 1988-20

## AN ACT

HB 831

Amending the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), entitled "An act concerning townships of the second class; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing the law relating thereto," increasing ordinance violation fines.

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

Section 1. Clause XLI of section 702 of the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.103, No.69), known as The Second Class Township Code, reenacted and amended July 10, 1947 (P.L.1481, No.567), amended April 12, 1976 (P.L.94, No.40) and repealed in part April 28, 1978 (P.L.202, No.53), is amended to read:

Section 702. Supervisors to Exercise Powers.—The corporate powers of townships of the second class shall be exercised by the township supervisors. Where no specific authority is given for the expenditures incident to the exercise of any power hereinafter conferred, or where no specific fund is designated from which such expenditures shall be made, appropriations for such expenditures shall be made only from the general township fund. In addition to the duties imposed upon them by section 516 hereof, they shall have power—

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XLI. Ordinances.—To adopt ordinances prescribing the manner in which such specific powers of the township shall be carried out. All such proposed ordinances, unless otherwise provided by law, shall be published not more than sixty days nor less than seven days prior to passage at least once in one newspaper circulating generally in the township. Public notices of any proposed ordinances shall include either the full text thereof or the title and a brief summary prepared by the township solicitor, if the township has a solicitor, otherwise by that individual who drafted the ordinance setting forth all the provisions in reasonable detail and a reference to a place within the township where copies of the proposed ordinance may be examined. If the full text is not included a copy thereof shall be supplied to a newspaper of general circulation in the county at the time the public notice is published. If the full text is not included an attested copy thereof shall be filed in the county law library or other county office designated by the county commissioners who may impose a fee no greater than that necessary to cover the actual costs of storing said ordinances. In the event substantial amendments are made in the proposed ordinance or resolution, before voting upon enactment, the board of supervisors shall within ten days readvertise in one newspaper of general circulation in the township, a brief summary setting forth all the provisions in reasonable detail together with a summary of the amendments. Such ordinances shall be recorded in the ordinance book of the town-

ship and shall become effective five days after such adoption. Any and all township ordinances, or portions thereof, the text of which, prior to the effective date of this reenactment and amendment, shall have been attached to the township ordinance book, shall be considered in force just as if such ordinances, or portions thereof, had been recorded directly upon the pages of such ordinance book: Provided, That all other requirements of this act applicable to the enactment, approval, advertising and recording of such ordinances or portions thereof, were complied with within the time limits prescribed by this act. In any case in which maps, plans, or drawings of any kind are adopted as part of an ordinance, the supervisors may, instead of publishing the same as part of the ordinance, refer in publishing the ordinance to the place where such maps, plans, or drawings are on file and may be examined. The board of supervisors may prescribe fines and penalties not exceeding [three hundred] *one thousand* dollars [in any instance for the violation of any such township ordinances] *for a violation of a building, housing, property maintenance, health, fire or public safety code or ordinance and for water, air and noise pollution violations, and not exceeding six hundred dollars for a violation of any other township ordinance*, which fines and penalties may be collected by suit or summary proceeding brought in the name of the township before any justice of the peace. Proceedings for the violation of township ordinances and for the collection of fines and penalties imposed thereby may be commenced by warrant, or by summons, at the discretion of the justice of the peace before whom the proceeding is begun. No warrant shall be issued, except upon complaint on oath or affirmation specifying the ordinance for the violation of which the same is issued. All proceedings shall be directed to, and be served by, a constable of the township. Warrants shall be returnable forthwith and upon such return-like proceeding shall be had, as in cases of summary conviction. All fines and penalties collected for the violation of township ordinances shall be paid over to the township treasury. Upon judgment against any person by summary conviction, or by proceedings by summons on default of the payment of the fine or penalty imposed and the costs, the defendant may be sentenced and committed to the township lockup for a period not exceeding five days, or to the county jail, or workhouse for a period not exceeding thirty days.

Any person aggrieved may make complaint as to the legality of such ordinance or resolution to the court.

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

APPROVED—The 2nd day of March, A. D. 1988.

ROBERT P. CASEY