No. 1997-2

AN ACT

SB 178

Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for the number of judges of the courts of common pleas in certain judicial districts and for the number of judges of the Philadelphia Municipal Court and the Philadelphia Traffic Court.

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

Section 1. Sections 911(a), 1121 and 1321 of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

§ 911. Courts of common pleas.

(a) General rule.—There shall be one court of common pleas for each judicial district of this Commonwealth consisting of the following number of judges:

Number of
Judges
9 0
[9] <i>11</i>
[6] 7
1
41
8
11
2
5
[10] <i>11</i>
[8] 9
[7] 8
[1] 2
5
[9] <i>11</i>
[2] 3
2
1
[9] <i>11</i>
1
5
1
[10] <i>11</i>
4

* * *

§ 1121. Philadelphia Municipal Court. The Philadelphia Municipal Court shall consist of [22] 25 judges.
§ 1321. Traffic Court of Philadelphia. The Traffic Court of Philadelphia shall be a court not of record and shall consist of [six] seven judges. The court is established for the City and County of Philadelphia.

Section 2. (a) The provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 3135 shall not be applicable to the selection of judges for the judgeships created in the amendment of 42 Pa.C.S. § 911(a).

(b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d), the new judgeships added by the amendment of 42 Pa.C.S. 911(a) shall be created on January 5, 1998, and shall be initially filled by election at the 1997 municipal election.

(c) The new judgeships for the eleventh, twelfth, twenty-third, forty-third, fiftieth and fifty-seventh districts added by the amendment of 42 Pa.C.S. 911(a) shall be created on January 3, 2000, and shall be initially filled by election at the 1999 municipal election.

(d) The new judgeships for the second and fifteenth districts added by the amendment of 42 Pa.C.S. § 911(a) shall be created as follows: one judgeship in each district shall be created on January 5, 1998, and shall be initially filled by election at the 1997 municipal election, and one judgeship in each district shall be created on January 3, 2000, and shall be initially filled by election at the 1999 municipal election.

Section 3. The first judges elected to those judgeships created under 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 1121 and 1321 shall be elected at the 1999 municipal election.

Section 4. This act shall take effect as follows:

(1) The amendment of 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 1121 and 1321 shall take effect on the first Monday of January 1998.

(2) The remainder of this act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 14th day of February, A.D. 1997.

THOMAS J. RIDGE