
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1296 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY A. BROWN, BRENNAN, ROZZI, NEILSON, HILL-EVANS,
BURGOS AND DELLOSO, JUNE 2, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 2, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in other officers and officials,
3 providing for law enforcement practices and policy;
4 conferring powers and imposing duties on the Attorney
5 General.

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

8 Section 1. Title 44 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
9 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

10 CHAPTER 75

11 LAW ENFORCEMENT PRACTICES AND POLICY

12 Subchapter

13 A. General Provisions

14 B. (Reserved)

15 C. Critical Crime Area

16 SUBCHAPTER A

17 GENERAL PROVISIONS

18 Sec.

19 7501. Definitions.

1 § 7501. Definitions.

2 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
3 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
4 context clearly indicates otherwise:

5 "Critical crime area." A location in this Commonwealth which
6 poses a substantial threat to law enforcement officers on duty
7 or as defined by the Attorney General.

8 "Law enforcement agency." As defined in section 7302
9 (relating to definitions).

10 "Law enforcement officer." As defined in section 7302.

11 "Law enforcement partner." A law enforcement officer
12 assigned to serve in the line of duty with a fellow law
13 enforcement officer.

14 SUBCHAPTER B

15 (Reserved)

16 SUBCHAPTER C

17 CRITICAL CRIME AREA

18 Sec.

19 7521. Critical crime area designation and assignment.

20 § 7521. Critical crime area designation and assignment.

21 (a) Law enforcement partners required.--All on-duty law
22 enforcement officers must be assigned and be accompanied by a
23 fellow law enforcement officer while on duty in a designated
24 critical crime area.

25 (b) Critical crime area designation.--The Attorney General
26 shall have the authority to identify, define and designate
27 critical crime areas. Law enforcement agencies may petition the
28 Attorney General for temporary critical crime area designation
29 if the area poses a substantial threat to law enforcement
30 officers on duty in that area.

1 (c) Petition to Attorney General.--The Attorney General
2 shall produce a form for petitions under subsection (b) and make
3 the form accessible on the publicly accessible Internet
4 website of the Office of Attorney General. The following
5 applies:

6 (1) The Attorney General must respond to a
7 petition within 30 days of receipt of the petition.

8 (2) Petitions that are rejected shall be returned to the
9 sender with the reason for the rejection.

10 (3) Law enforcement agencies may resubmit a rejected
11 petition after 30 days.

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.