
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1078 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY DELLOSO, MADDEN, N. NELSON, SANCHEZ, JOZWIAK,
CIRESI, D. WILLIAMS, PARKER, CONKLIN, RABB AND HADDOCK,
MAY 2, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MAY 2, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in other offenses, providing for the
3 offense of failure to report death.

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

6 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 7518. Failure to report death.

9 (a) Offense defined.--Except as provided in subsection (b),
10 a person is guilty of a summary offense if, upon witnessing the
11 death of an individual or discovering the body of an individual
12 that the person knows or reasonably believes is dead, the person
13 fails to, in the most expeditious manner possible, notify a 911
14 system, physician or other medical professional, law enforcement
15 agency or funeral home.

16 (b) Exceptions.--Subsection (a) shall not apply to the
17 following:

18 (1) A person who knows or reasonably believes that a 911

1 system, physician or other medical professional, law
2 enforcement agency or funeral home has been notified of the
3 death of the individual or discovery of the body of the
4 individual.

5 (2) A child under 14 years of age.

6 (3) An individual with an intellectual disability
7 failing to act under the direction of:

8 (i) the individual's parent;

9 (ii) another individual residing in the same
10 household; or

11 (iii) another individual responsible for the
12 individual's welfare.

13 (c) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "funeral
14 home" shall have the same meaning as "funeral establishment" in
15 section 2(6) of the act of January 14, 1952 (1951 P.L.1898,
16 No.522), known as the Funeral Director Law.

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