THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1568 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY DIGIROLAMO, CALTAGIRONE, SCHLOSSBERG, BOBACK, DAVIS, D. COSTA, SANTARSIERO, DeLUCA, BARBIN, COHEN, MURT, ROZZI, FRANKEL, READSHAW AND KINSEY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

AN ACT

- 1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
- 2 Consolidated Statutes, in child protective services, further
- 3 providing for education and training.
- 4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 5 hereby enacts as follows:
- 6 Section 1. Section 6383(a) of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania
- 7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:
- 8 § 6383. Education and training.
- 9 (a) Duties of department and county agencies.--
- 10 <u>(1)</u> The department and each county agency, both jointly
- and individually, shall conduct a continuing publicity and
- 12 education program for the citizens of this Commonwealth aimed
- 13 at the prevention of child abuse and child neglect, including
- 14 the prevention of newborn abandonment, the identification of
- abused and neglected children and the provision of necessary
- 16 ameliorative services to abused and neglected children and
- 17 their families.
- 18 (2) The department and each county agency shall conduct

an ongoing training and education program for local staff,

2 persons required to make reports and other appropriate

3 persons in order to familiarize those persons with the

4 reporting and investigative procedures for cases of suspected

child abuse and the rehabilitative services that are

6 available to children and families.

- (3) In addition, the department shall, by regulation, establish a program of training and certification for persons classified as protective services workers[. The regulations shall provide for the] that includes the following:
 - (i) The grandfathering of all current permanent protective services workers as certified protective services workers.
 - (ii) Upon request by the county agency and approval of the department, the agency may conduct the training of the county's protective services workers.
- (iii) Basic training on drug and alcohol abuse and
 addiction, warning signs of drug and alcohol problems,
 methods of referral for assessment and treatment of
 addiction.
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22 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.