

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1696 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY SANKEY, BERNSTINE, D. COSTA, GABLER, GILLEN,
A. HARRIS, PHILLIPS-HILL, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, MUSTIO,
PICKETT, RYAN, WARD, WATSON AND WHEELAND, AUGUST 24, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, AUGUST 24, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in registration of vehicles, providing for
3 contributions for sexual offense evidence testing and
4 establishing the Sexual Offense Evidence Testing Account.

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

7 Section 1. Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 1321. Contributions for sexual offense evidence testing.

10 (a) General rule.--Within one year of the effective date of
11 this section, the department shall provide for all of the
12 following:

13 (1) The ability of a person renewing a driver's license
14 or identification card electronically through the
15 department's publicly accessible Internet website to make a
16 contribution for evidence testing.

17 (2) The ability of a person renewing a vehicle
18 registration electronically through the department's publicly

1 accessible Internet website to make a contribution for
2 evidence testing.

3 (b) Implementation.--

4 (1) A contribution under subsection (a) shall be added,
5 as appropriate, to the regular fee for:

6 (i) An original or renewal driver's license or
7 identification card.

8 (ii) A renewal vehicle registration.

9 (2) One contribution under subsection (a) may be made
10 for:

11 (i) Each issuance or renewal of a driver's license
12 or identification card.

13 (ii) Each renewal vehicle registration.

14 (c) Use.--Contributions under subsection (a) shall be used
15 exclusively to assist the Pennsylvania State Police and other
16 law enforcement agencies in testing evidence collected in
17 relation to a sexual assault or other sexual offense at a crime
18 lab approved by the Pennsylvania State Police.

19 (d) Deposits.--

20 (1) The department shall determine on a monthly basis
21 the total amount collected under this section and shall
22 report the amount to the State Treasurer.

23 (2) The State Treasurer shall transfer the amount
24 reported under paragraph (1) from the General Fund to the
25 Sexual Offense Evidence Testing Account, which account is
26 established in the State Treasury. The money in the account
27 is appropriated on a continuing basis to the Pennsylvania
28 State Police and shall be used for evidence testing in sexual
29 assault and sexual offense investigations.

30 (e) Information.--

1 (1) The department shall provide adequate information
2 concerning the contribution for testing evidence collected in
3 relation to a sexual assault or other sexual offense at a
4 crime lab in its instructions for applicants under subsection
5 (a). The information concerning the contribution shall
6 include the listing of an address furnished by the State
7 Treasurer to which contributions may be sent by individuals
8 wishing to make additional contributions.

9 (2) The Pennsylvania State Police and the Attorney
10 General shall conduct a public information campaign on the
11 availability of this opportunity to Pennsylvania taxpayers.

12 (f) Reporting.--The Governor shall report annually to the
13 Judiciary Committee of the Senate and the Judiciary Committee of
14 the House of Representatives on the amount received from the
15 contributions authorized by this section and how the funds were
16 used.

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