
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2793 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY WARNER, COOK, DAVANZO, DOWLING, DUNBAR, ECKER,
JONES, KAUFFMAN, MILLARD, MOUL, READSHAW, SAYLOR, SCHMITT,
STAATS AND ZIMMERMAN, AUGUST 18, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, AUGUST 18, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to
3 government and administration, providing for business of
4 security payments prohibited.

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

7 Section 1. Title 53 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 1143. Business of security payments prohibited.

10 (a) Prohibition.--Money received by a city from the levy,
11 assessment and collection of a tax authorized by law may not be
12 used to pay a person engaged in the business of security if the
13 city disbands the police department of the city by vote,
14 ordinance, resolution or otherwise.

15 (b) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
16 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
17 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

18 "Business of security." As follows:

1 (1) The business of any of the following:

2 (i) An investigator.

3 (ii) A watch, guard or patrol agency.

4 (iii) A person that provides security to protect
5 persons or property.

6 (2) The term shall include, separately or collectively,
7 the making, for hire, reward or any consideration whatsoever,
8 of an investigation for the purpose of obtaining information
9 with reference to any of the following matters,
10 notwithstanding the fact that other functions and services
11 may also be performed for fee, hire or reward:

12 (i) Crime or wrongs done or threatened against the
13 Federal Government or a state or territory of the United
14 States.

15 (ii) The identity, habits, conduct, movements,
16 whereabouts, affiliations, associations, transactions,
17 reputation or character of a person or group of persons.

18 (iii) The credibility of witnesses or other persons.

19 (iv) The whereabouts of missing individuals.

20 (v) The location or recovery of lost or stolen
21 property.

22 (vi) The causes and origin of, or responsibility
23 for, fires, libels, losses, accidents, damage or injuries
24 to real or personal property.

25 (vii) The affiliation, connection or relation of a
26 person with a union, organization, society or association
27 or with an official member or representative thereof.

28 (viii) With reference to an individual seeking
29 employment in the place of another individual who quit
30 work by reason of a strike.

1 (ix) With reference to the conduct, honesty,
2 efficiency, loyalty or activities of an employee, agent,
3 contractor or subcontractor.

4 (x) The securing of evidence to be used before an
5 authorized investigating committee, board of award or
6 board of arbitration or in the trial of a civil or
7 criminal case.

8 (xi) The furnishing, for hire or reward, of
9 watchmen, guards, private patrolmen or other persons to:

10 (A) protect persons or property;

11 (B) prevent the theft or the unlawful taking of
12 goods, wares or merchandise;

13 (C) prevent the misappropriation or concealment
14 of goods, wares or merchandise, money, bonds, stocks,
15 choses in action, notes or other valuable documents,
16 papers or articles of value;

17 (D) procure the return of any of the items
18 listed under clause (C); or

19 (E) perform any other services associated with
20 those persons.

21 "City." A city of the first class, a city of the second
22 class, a city of the second class A or a city of the third
23 class.

24 "Person." An individual, corporation, partnership, limited
25 liability company, business trust, association, estate, trust,
26 foundation, society or other entity.

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