

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2837 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY HOWARD, HOHENSTEIN, BENHAM, D. WILLIAMS, HILL-
EVANS, T. DAVIS, SANCHEZ, RABB, SCHLOSSBERG, MADDEN, DELLOSO
AND CIRESI, SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in dissolution of marital status,
3 further providing for grounds for divorce and for counseling.

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

6 Section 1. Sections 3301(c) and 3302(b) of Title 23 of the
7 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

8 § 3301. Grounds for divorce.

9 * * *

10 (c) Mutual consent.--

11 (1) The court may grant a divorce where it is alleged
12 that the marriage is irretrievably broken [and 90 days have
13 elapsed from the date of commencement of an action under this
14 part] and an affidavit has been filed by each of the parties
15 evidencing that each of the parties consents to the divorce.

16 (2) The consent of a party shall be presumed where that
17 party has been convicted of committing a personal injury
18 crime against the other party.

1 (3) A mutual consent divorce shall be resolved in the
2 minor judiciary or Philadelphia Municipal Court when the
3 following requirements are met:

4 (i) If the parties have children, they have created
5 an agreement regarding custody arrangements, which may be
6 shared with the court.

7 (ii) There are no adversarial claims about property.

8 (iii) Both parties aver they are cognizant of
9 renouncing claims regarding the future financial
10 interests of the other party, including, but not limited
11 to, private pension benefits.

12 (iv) Neither party is making an alimony claim.

13 * * *

14 § 3302. Counseling.

15 * * *

16 (b) [Mutual consent.--Whenever mutual consent under section
17 3301(c) is the ground for divorce, the court shall require up to
18 a maximum of three counseling sessions within the 90 days
19 following the commencement of the action where either of the
20 parties requests it.] (Reserved).

21 * * *

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