

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 656 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, COLLETT, HUGHES, KEARNEY,
CAPPELLETTI, COMITTA, COSTA, MUTH AND KANE, MAY 24, 2021

REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, MAY 24, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 22, 1937 (P.L.1987, No.394), entitled
2 "An act to preserve and improve the purity of the waters of
3 the Commonwealth for the protection of public health, animal
4 and aquatic life, and for industrial consumption, and
5 recreation; empowering and directing the creation of
6 indebtedness or the issuing of non-debt revenue bonds by
7 political subdivisions to provide works to abate pollution;
8 providing protection of water supply and water quality;
9 providing for the jurisdiction of courts in the enforcement
10 thereof; providing additional remedies for abating pollution
11 of waters; imposing certain penalties; repealing certain
12 acts; regulating discharges of sewage and industrial wastes;
13 regulating the operation of mines and regulating the impact
14 of mining upon water quality, supply and quantity; placing
15 responsibilities upon landowners and land occupiers and to
16 maintain primary jurisdiction over surface coal mining in
17 Pennsylvania," in procedure and enforcement, further
18 providing for summary proceedings.

19 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
20 hereby enacts as follows:

21 Section 1. Section 603 of the act of June 22, 1937
22 (P.L.1987, No.394), known as The Clean Streams Law, is amended
23 to read:

24 Section 603. Summary Proceedings.--All summary proceedings
25 under the provisions of this act may be commenced by the Office
26 of Attorney General under the act of October 15, 1980 (P.L.950,

1 No.164), known as the Commonwealth Attorneys Act, or brought
2 before any district justice of the county where the offense
3 occurred or the unlawful discharge of sewage, industrial waste
4 or pollution was maintained, or in the county where the public
5 is affected, [and to that end jurisdiction is hereby conferred
6 upon said district justices,] subject to appeal by either party
7 in the manner provided by law. In the case of any appeal from
8 any such conviction in the manner provided by law for appeals
9 from summary conviction, it shall be the duty of the Office of
10 Attorney General or the district attorney of the county to
11 represent the interests of the Commonwealth.

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