
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 975 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, FONTANA, ARGALL, KANE, KEARNEY AND
CAPPELLETTI, DECEMBER 17, 2021

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DECEMBER 17, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
17 and commissions; providing for judicial administration; and
18 prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation
19 of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of
20 certain departments, boards and commissions shall be
21 determined," in powers and duties of the Department of Public
22 Welfare and its departmental administrative and advisory
23 boards and commissions, further providing for admissions to
24 drug and alcohol facilities.

25 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
26 hereby enacts as follows:

27 Section 1. Section 2335 of the act of April 9, 1929
28 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, is
29 amended to read:

1 Section 2335. Admissions to Drug and Alcohol Facilities.--

2 (a) Drug or alcohol abusers and drug or alcohol dependent
3 persons shall be admitted to and treated in all facilities
4 licensed by the Department of [Health and Office of] Drug and
5 Alcohol Programs, at [reasonable rates on the basis of medical
6 or psychotherapeutic need,] no cost, regardless of whether the
7 drug or alcohol abusers and drug or alcohol dependent persons
8 are under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of
9 admission, and shall not be discriminated against on the basis
10 of medical assistance eligibility.

11 (b) As part of its licensure process, the [Office]
12 Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs shall review each
13 facility's admission policies for compliance and shall
14 investigate complaints.

15 (c) The [Office] Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs may
16 suspend or revoke the license of any facility which fails to
17 maintain an admission policy consistent with the requirements of
18 this section and may impose a fine not to exceed one thousand
19 dollars (\$1,000) for each violation.

20 (d) Nothing in this section shall require any facility to
21 accept medical assistance eligible patients for whom payment is
22 not available pursuant to regulations adopted under section
23 2334(b)(3).

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