

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 533 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, COSTA, SABATINA, TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER, BROWNE, BLAKE AND HUGHES, MARCH 24, 2017

SENATOR BAKER, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AS AMENDED, JUNE 13, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for emergency addiction
3 treatment; and imposing powers and duties on the Department
4 of Drug and Alcohol Programs.

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

7 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

9 CHAPTER 83

10 EMERGENCY ADDICTION TREATMENT

11 Subchapter

12 A. Preliminary Provisions

13 B. Program

14 SUBCHAPTER A

15 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

16 Sec.

17 8301. Short title of chapter.

18 8302. Definitions.

1 § 8301. Short title of chapter.

2 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Emergency
3 Addiction Treatment Act.

4 § 8302. Definitions.

5 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
6 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
7 context clearly indicates otherwise:

8 "Department." The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs of
9 the Commonwealth.

10 "Program." The Emergency Addiction Treatment Program
11 established in section 8310 (relating to Emergency Addiction
12 Treatment Program).

13 SUBCHAPTER B

14 PROGRAM

15 Sec.

16 8310. Emergency Addiction Treatment Program.

17 § 8310. Emergency Addiction Treatment Program.

18 (a) Establishment.--The Emergency Addiction Treatment
19 Program is established in the Department of Drug and Alcohol
20 Programs to provide addiction treatment in licensed long-term
21 residential addiction treatment facilities, including licensed
22 halfway houses, for individuals who are unable to obtain timely
23 or appropriate treatment, as determined by the department, and
24 to establish such treatment facilities. The program shall be
25 administered by the department.

26 (b) Powers and duties of department.--In order to provide
27 individuals seeking assistance with better and more timely
28 access to drug and alcohol addiction treatment, the department
29 shall:

30 (1) Maintain a toll-free telephone number to assist

1 individuals seeking help for drug and alcohol problems. The
2 telephone number shall be posted on the department's publicly
3 accessible Internet website and shall be posted or published
4 by the department in such other media as the department
5 determines is necessary to reach as many individuals as
6 possible.

7 (2) Provide assistance in accessing addiction treatment.
8 The department may provide this service by contract.

9 (3) Develop and maintain a database identifying problems
10 and patterns in accessing appropriate addiction treatment.

11 (4) Develop and provide a program to educate and counsel
12 families with addiction problems on how to prevent and treat
13 addiction.

14 (5) Prepare an annual report to the General Assembly on
15 the activities described in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3),
16 including recommendations for improving access to addiction
17 treatment. The report shall be posted on the department's
18 publicly accessible Internet website.

19 ~~(c) Guidelines. The department shall develop and forward to <--~~
20 ~~the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the~~
21 ~~Pennsylvania Bulletin guidelines for the implementation of the~~
22 ~~program established under section 1203 B of the act of March 4,~~
23 ~~1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, and to~~
24 ~~govern the eligible use of the fund by counties and other~~
25 ~~entities or persons that provide addiction treatment services to~~
26 ~~individuals in licensed long term residential addiction~~
27 ~~treatment facilities, including halfway houses.~~

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