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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2485 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY FARRY, WHITE, KAUFER, TOMLINSON, HILL-EVANS,  
STAATS, T. DAVIS, DRISCOLL, CIRESI, DeLUCA, ROZZI, READSHAW,  
MERSKI AND WARREN, JULY 1, 2020

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, JULY 1, 2020

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), entitled "An  
2 act defining the liability of an employer to pay damages for  
3 injuries received by an employe in the course of employment;  
4 establishing an elective schedule of compensation; providing  
5 procedure for the determination of liability and compensation  
6 thereunder; and prescribing penalties," in interpretation and  
7 definitions, further providing for the definition of  
8 occupational disease.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Section 108 of the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736,  
12 No.338), known as the Workers' Compensation Act, is amended by  
13 adding a subsection to read:

14 Section 108. The term "occupational disease," as used in  
15 this act, shall mean only the following diseases.

16 \* \* \*

17 (s) The novel coronavirus, as identified in the proclamation  
18 of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,  
19 published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of  
20 the state of disaster emergency, in the occupations of employes

1 of a health care provider who are responsible for providing in-  
2 person care to patients involving exposure to such disease or  
3 employees of the provider who may have had exposure to the  
4 disease. A positive test for infection with the novel  
5 coronavirus in an individual in such occupations shall establish  
6 a presumption that the disease is an occupational disease within  
7 the meaning of this act, but this presumption may not be  
8 conclusive and may be rebutted.

9       Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.