
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 297 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY KULIK, CIRESI, MADDEN, SANCHEZ, HARKINS,
PISCIOTTANO AND JAMES, MARCH 10, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 10, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in assault, providing for the offense
3 of harassment of sports official.

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

6 Section 1. Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 2709.2. Harassment of sports official.

9 (a) Offense defined.--A person who violates section 2709(a)
10 (1), (2), (3) or (4) (relating to harassment), where the victim
11 is a sports official who was harassed as a result of official
12 acts or status as a sports official, is guilty of harassment of
13 a sports official.

14 (b) Grading.--An offense under subsection (a) shall
15 constitute a misdemeanor of the third degree.

16 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
17 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
18 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

1 "Sports official." A person at a sporting event who enforces
2 the rules of the event, such as an umpire or referee, or a
3 person who supervises the participants, such as a coach. The
4 term includes a trainer, team attendant, game manager, athletic
5 director, assistant athletic director, president, dean,
6 headmaster, principal and assistant principal of a school,
7 college or university.

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