

For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this act, all the officers charged with its enforcement shall have the power to enter any of the buildings or structures enumerated in section two of this act, and no person shall hinder or delay, or interfere with, any of the said officers in the performance of his duty, nor refuse information necessary to determine whether the provisions of this act, and the rules and regulations herein provided for, are or will be complied with.

APPROVED—The 28th day of May, A. D. 1937.

GEORGE H. EARLE

No. 282

AN ACT

Relating to statutory laws; prescribing an enacting clause for statutes; fixing the effective date and time of statutes hereafter enacted; providing for notice of application for local and special legislation, for the correction of errors in statutes, and for the printing and publication of statutes; prescribing rules for the interpretation of statutes; defining certain words and phrases when used in statutes; and prescribing rules for the construction and operation of amendments, re-enactments and repeals of statutes.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article	Sections
I. General Provisions,	1-4
II. Editing and Publication of Laws and Bills,	21-25
III. Construction of Words and Phrases, ..	31-40
IV. Construction of Laws,	51-66
V. Amendatory Laws,	71-77
VI. Re-enactments,	81-83
VII. Repealing Laws,	91-97
VIII. Definitions of Words and Phrases,	101
IX. Repeals,	102

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

ARTICLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Short Title.—This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the “Statutory Construction Act.”

Section 2. Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when used in this act, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:

“Final enactment” or “enacted finally” means the time when the procedure required by the Constitution for the enactment of a bill into a law has been complied with.

“Law” means an act of Assembly of this Commonwealth.

“Legislature” means the General Assembly of this Commonwealth.

Section 3. Style and Position of Enacting Clause.—All laws shall begin in the following style: “The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows”:

Such enacting clause shall be placed immediately after the table of contents of the law, or if there be no table of contents, then immediately after the title.

Section 4. Effective Date and Time of Laws.—All laws hereafter enacted finally at a regular session of the Legislature, except laws making appropriations, shall be in full force and effect from and after the first day of September next following their final enactment, unless a different date is specified in the law itself.

Appropriations, laws, or laws having appropriation items, enacted finally at a regular session of the Legislature, shall be in full force and effect from and after the first day of June next following their final enactment, unless a different date is specified in the law itself, or unless any such appropriation law or law having an appropriation item is enacted finally after the first day of June in any year, in which case it shall be in full force and effect immediately upon final enactment.

All laws enacted finally at a special or extraordinary session of the Legislature, shall be in full force and effect immediately upon final enactment, unless a different date is specified in the law itself.

ARTICLE II

EDITING AND PUBLICATION OF LAWS AND BILLS

Section 21. Publication of Notice of Application for Local and Special Legislation.—No local or special bill, either to repeal or enact a local or special law, shall be passed by the Legislature, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall be published, once a week for four successive weeks, in not less than two newspapers of general circulation, as defined by law, and also in the legal journal, as defined by law, if any, published in the county or in each of the several counties where the matter or thing affected may be. Where the matter or thing affected is in a city or borough, publication shall be made in two newspapers of general circulation, as defined by law, published in such city or borough, if any, and, if none, then in two newspapers published in the county, and, in either event, also in the legal journal, as defined by law, if any, published in the county. Where only one newspaper of general circulation, as defined by law, is published in a county or in a city or borough, publica-

tion in such one newspaper and in the legal journal, if any, shall be deemed sufficient.

The first publication shall be at least thirty days prior to, and within three months immediately preceding, the introduction of the bill into the Legislature.

The notice shall set forth the full title and the purposes of the bill, and shall be signed by one of the parties applying therefor.

Proof of publication in each newspaper and legal journal, verified by affidavit, shall be filed with the bill when it is introduced.

Section 22. Preparation of Laws for Printing.—The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall, as soon as any bill becomes a law, prepare the same for printing, affix thereto proper marginal notes stating the purport of each paragraph or section if the law contains no section headings, cause the same to be printed immediately, and collate with and correct the proof sheets by the original rolls. He shall also have the laws printed and indexed in book form as early as possible succeeding each session of the Legislature, for distribution in accordance with law.

Section 23. Correction of Errors in Laws.—Where any law shall have been finally enacted and it shall be ascertained that such law is technically defective in form, or contains misspelled words or typographical errors, or the plural or singular number, or the past, present or future tense appears where another should be used, or where a word clearly intended to be inserted has been omitted, or where a word is correctly spelled but it clearly appears that another word was intended, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, in punctuating and editing such law, shall have authority, with the approval of the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Attorney General, and the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, to correct the original copy of such law, as filed in the Department of State, if such correction will not in any manner affect or change the meaning, intent or substance of such law.

Whenever any such correction on any law is made, a notation thereof shall be made on the original copy by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, together with his signature, followed by the approval and signatures of the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Attorney General, and the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau.

A notation of such corrections shall also be printed in the pamphlet laws as footnotes to the laws on which the corrections were made.

Section 24. Prothonotaries to Keep Files of Advance Copies of Laws.—The prothonotaries of the several counties shall file and keep in their offices advance copies

of the laws enacted at each session of the Legislature, as such advanced copies are furnished to them in accordance with law, for a period of one year from the date of receipt of the first of the said laws, in such manner that they shall be accessible to the public during the office hours of the prothonotaries.

Section 25. General and Appropriation Laws to Be Printed Separately.—The general laws passed at each regular session of the Legislature shall be printed separately and apart from those containing solely an appropriation. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall be the sole judge of such separation. The number of copies of the general laws and of the appropriation laws to be printed, and the distribution thereof, shall remain as is now or may hereafter be provided by law.

ARTICLE III

CONSTRUCTION OF WORDS AND PHRASES

Section 31. Rules of Interpretation.—In the construction of the laws of this Commonwealth, the rules set forth in this article shall be observed, unless the application of such rules would result in a construction inconsistent with the manifest intent of the Legislature.

Section 32. Number; Gender; Tense.—The singular shall include the plural, and the plural, the singular. Words used in the masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter. Words used in the past or present tense shall include the future.

Section 33. Words and Phrases.—Words and phrases shall be construed according to rules of grammar and according to their common and approved usage; but technical words and phrases and such others as have acquired a peculiar and appropriate meaning or are defined in this act, shall be construed according to such peculiar and appropriate meaning or definition.

General words shall be construed to take their meanings and be restricted by preceding particular words.

Section 34. Numerals.—The Roman numerals and the Arabic numerals shall be deemed parts of the English language.

Section 35. Joint Authority; Quorum.—Words in a law conferring a joint authority upon three or more public officers or other persons shall be construed to confer authority upon a majority of such officers or persons.

A majority of any board or commission shall constitute a quorum.

Section 36. Bonds.—A law requiring a bond or undertaking with sureties to be given by any person, shall be construed to permit in lieu thereof a bond of indemnity or surety bond for the amount of such bond or

undertaking, given by any indemnity or surety company authorized to do business in this Commonwealth, and approved by the proper authority.

Section 37. Uniform Standard Time.—Every mention of, or reference to any hour or time in any law, shall be construed with reference to and in accordance with the mean solar time of the seventy-fifth meridian of longitude west of Greenwich, commonly called eastern standard time, unless a different standard is therein expressly provided for, or unless the standard time shall be advanced for any portion of the year, by any act of Congress or law of this Commonwealth hereafter passed.

Section 38. Computation of Time.—When any period of time is referred to in any law, such period in all cases, except as otherwise provided in sections thirty-nine and forty, shall be so computed as to exclude the first and include the last day of such period. Whenever the last day of any such period shall fall on Sunday, or on any day made a legal holiday by the laws of this Commonwealth or of the United States, such day shall be omitted from the computation.

Section 39. Time; Publication for Successive Weeks.—Whenever in any law providing for the publishing of notices, the phrase “successive weeks” is used, weeks shall be construed as calendar weeks. The publication upon any day of such weeks shall be sufficient publication for that week, but at least five days shall elapse between each publication. At least the number of weeks specified in “successive weeks” shall elapse between the first publication and the day for the happening of the event for which publication shall be made.

Section 40. Time; Computation of Months.—Whenever in any law the lapse of a number of months after or before a certain day is required, such number of months shall be computed by counting the months from such day, excluding the calendar month in which such day occurs, and shall include the day of the month in the last month so counted having the same numerical order as the day of the month from which the computation is made, unless there be not so many days in the last month so counted, in which case the period computed shall expire with the last day of such month.

ARTICLE IV

CONSTRUCTION OF LAWS

Section 51. Construction of Laws; Legislative Intent Controls.—The object of all interpretation and construction of laws is to ascertain and effectuate the intention of the Legislature. Every law shall be construed, if possible, to give effect to all its provisions.

When the words of a law are clear and free from all ambiguity, the letter of it is not to be disregarded under the pretext of pursuing its spirit.

When the words of a law are not explicit, the intention of the Legislature may be ascertained by considering, among other matters—(1) the occasion and necessity for the law; (2) the circumstances under which it was enacted; (3) the mischief to be remedied; (4) the object to be attained; (5) the former law, if any, including other laws upon the same or similar subjects; (6) the consequences of a particular interpretation; (7) the contemporaneous legislative history; and (8) legislative and administrative interpretations of such law.

Section 52. Presumptions* in Ascertaining Legislative Intent.—In ascertaining the intention of the Legislature in the enactment of a law, the courts may be guided by the following presumptions among others:

(1) That the Legislature does not intend a result that is absurd, impossible of execution or unreasonable;

(2) That the Legislature intends the entire statute to be effective and certain;

(3) That the Legislature does not intend to violate the Constitution of the United States or of this Commonwealth;

(4) That when a court of last resort has construed the language used in a law, the Legislature in subsequent laws on the same subject matter intend the same construction to be placed upon such language;

(5) That the Legislature intends to favor the public interest as against any private interest.

Section 53. Grammar and Punctuation of Laws.—Grammatical errors shall not vitiate a law. A transposition of words and clauses may be resorted to where a sentence is without meaning as it stands.

In no case shall the punctuation of a law control or affect the intention of the Legislature in the enactment thereof.

Words and phrases which may be necessary to the proper interpretation of a law and which do not conflict with its obvious purpose and intent, nor in any way affect its scope and operation, may be added in the construction thereof.

Section 54. Construction of Titles, Preambles, Provisos, Exceptions and Headings.—The title and preamble of a law may be considered in the construction thereof. Provisos shall be construed to limit rather than to extend the operation of the clauses to which they refer. Exceptions expressed in a law shall be construed to exclude all others. The headings prefixed to chapters, articles, sections and other divisions of a law shall not be considered to control but may be used to aid in the construction thereof.

* "Presumptions" in the original.

Section 55. Constitutional Construction of Laws.—The provisions of every law shall be severable. If any provision of a law is found by a court of record to be unconstitutional and void, the remaining provisions of the law shall, nevertheless, remain valid, unless the court finds the valid provisions of the law are so essentially and inseparably connected with, and so depend upon, the void provision, that it cannot be presumed the Legislature would have enacted the remaining valid provisions without the void one; or unless the court finds the remaining valid provisions, standing alone, are incomplete and are incapable of being executed in accordance with the legislative intent.

Section 56: Presumption Against Retroactive Effect.—No law shall be construed to be retroactive unless clearly and manifestly so intended by the Legislature.

Section 57. Construction of Uniform Laws.—Laws uniform with those of other states shall be interpreted and construed to effect their general purpose to make uniform the laws of those states which enact them.

Section 58. Rule of Strict and Liberal Construction.—The rule that laws in derogation of the common law are to be strictly construed, shall have no application to the laws of this Commonwealth hereafter enacted.

All provisions of a law of the classes hereafter enumerated shall be strictly construed:

- (1) Penal provisions;
- (2) Retroactive provisions;
- (3) Provisions imposing taxes;
- (4) Provisions conferring the power of eminent domain;
- (5) Provisions exempting persons and property from taxation;
- (6) Provisions exempting property from the power of eminent domain;
- (7) Provisions decreasing the jurisdiction of a court of record;
- (8) Provisions enacted prior to the effective date of this law which are in derogation of the common law.

All other provisions of a law shall be liberally construed to effect their objects and to promote justice.

Section 59. Penalties No Bar to Civil Remedies.—The provision in any law for a penalty or forfeiture for its violation, shall not be construed to deprive an injured person of the right to recover from the offender, damages sustained by reason of the violation of such law.

Section 60. Penalties for Each Offense.—Whenever a penalty or forfeiture is provided for the violation of a law, such penalty or forfeiture shall be construed to be for each such violation.

Section 61. Intent to Defraud.—Whenever an intent to defraud is required in any law in order to constitute

an offense, the law shall be construed to require only an intent to defraud any person or body politic.

Section 62. *Laws in Pari Materia.*—Laws or parts of laws are in *pari materia* when they relate to the same persons or things or to the same class of persons or things.

Laws in *pari materia* shall be construed together, if possible, as one law.

Section 63. *Particular Controls General.*—Whenever a general provision in a law shall be in conflict with a special provision in the same or another law, the two shall be construed, if possible, so that effect may be given to both. If the conflict between the two provisions be irreconcilable, the special provisions shall prevail and shall be construed as an exception to the general provision, unless the general provision shall be enacted later and it shall be the manifest intention of the Legislature that such general provision shall prevail.

Section 64. *Irreconcilable Clauses in the Same Law.*—Except as provided in section sixty-three, whenever, in the same law, several clauses are irreconcilable, the clause last in order of date or position shall prevail.

Section 65. *Irreconcilable Laws Passed During the Same Session.*—Whenever the provisions of two or more laws passed during the same session of the Legislature are irreconcilable, the law latest in date of final enactment, irrespective of its effective date, shall prevail from the time it becomes effective except as otherwise provided in sections seventy-two and ninety-four.

Section 66. *Irreconcilable Laws Passed at Different Sessions.*—Whenever the provisions of two or more laws passed at different sessions of the Legislature are irreconcilable, the law latest in date of final enactment shall prevail.

ARTICLE V

AMENDATORY LAWS

Section 71. *Printing and Interpretation of Amendatory Laws.*—The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall, in printing amendatory laws, cause to be printed the section or part of the law only as re-enacted. In the section or part of the law re-enacted, the secretary shall cause to be printed between brackets, the words, phrases, or provisions of the existing law, if any, which have been stricken out or eliminated by the adoption of the amendment, and he shall cause to be printed in italics all new words, phrases or provisions, if any, which have been inserted into or added to the law by the passage of such amendment.

In ascertaining the correct reading, status and interpretation of an amendatory law, the matter inserted

within brackets shall be omitted, and the matter in italics shall be read and interpreted as part of the law.

Section 72. Effect of Separate Amendments on Code Provisions Enacted at Same Session.—Whenever any existing law, incorporated into and repealed by a code, is also amended by other legislation enacted at the same session of the Legislature, such separate amendment shall be construed to be in force, notwithstanding the repeal by the code of the law it amends, and such amendment shall be construed to prevail over the corresponding provisions of the code.

Section 73. Construction of Amendatory Laws.—Whenever a section or part of a law is amended, the amendment shall be construed as merging into the original law, become a part thereof, and replace the part amended and the remainder of the original law and the amendment shall be read together and viewed as one law passed at one time; but the portions of the law which were not altered by the amendment shall be construed as effective from the time of their original enactment, and the new provisions shall be construed as effective only from the date when the amendment became effective.

Section 74. Merger of Subsequent Amendments.—Whenever a law has been more than once amended, the latest amendment shall be read into the original law as previously amended and not into such law as originally enacted.

Section 75. Two or More Amendments to Same Provision, One Overlooking the Other.—Whenever two or more amendments to the same provision of a law are enacted at the same or different sessions, one amendment overlooking and making no reference to the other or others, the amendments shall be construed together, if possible, and effect be given to each. If the amendments be irreconcilable, the latest in date of final enactment shall prevail from the time it becomes effective.

Section 76. Repeal of Laws and Original Laws Subsequently Amended.—The repeal of an amendatory law does not revive the corresponding provision or section of the original law or of any prior amendment. Except as otherwise provided in section ninety-four, the repeal of an original law, or section or provision of an original law, repeals all subsequent amendments to the original law, or to the original section or provision, as the case may be.

Section 77. Ineffective Provisions Not Revived by Re-enactment in Amendatory Laws; Exception.—Provisions of a law no longer effective shall not be construed as being revived by re-enactment in an amendatory law, unless it shall clearly appear that the Legislature intended to revive such provisions.

ARTICLE VI

RE-ENACTMENTS

Section 81. Effect of Re-enactment on Original Law.—Whenever a law re-enacts a former law, the provisions common to both laws shall date from their first adoption. Such provisions only of the former law as are omitted from the re-enactment shall be deemed abrogated, and only the new or changed provisions shall be deemed to be the law from the effective date of the re-enactment.

Section 82. Repeal and Re-enactment.—Whenever a law is repealed and its provisions are at the same time re-enacted in the same or substantially the same terms by the repealing law, the earlier law shall be construed as continued in active operation. All rights and liabilities incurred under such earlier law are preserved and may be enforced.

Section 83. Effect on Re-enactment of Intervening Law.—A law which re-enacts the provisions of an earlier law shall not be construed to repeal an intermediate law which modified such earlier law. Such intermediate law shall be construed to remain in force and to modify the re-enactment in the same manner as it modified the earlier law.

ARTICLE VII

REPEALING LAWS

Section 91. Implied Repeal by Later Law.—Whenever a law purports to be a revision of all laws upon a particular subject, or sets up a general or exclusive system covering the entire subject matter of a former law and is intended as a substitute for such former law, such law shall be construed to repeal all former laws upon the same subject.

Whenever a general law purports to establish a uniform and mandatory system covering a class of subjects, such law shall be construed to repeal pre-existing local or special laws on the same class of subjects.

In all other cases, a later law shall not be construed to repeal an earlier law unless the two laws be irreconcilable.

Section 92. Nonexistence of Reason for Law Does Not Effect Repeal.—A law shall not be deemed repealed because the reason for its passage no longer exists.

Section 93. No Implied Repeal by Nonuser.—A law shall not be deemed repealed by failure to use such law.

Section 94. Effect of Separate Repeals on Code Provisions at the Same Session.—Whenever a law repeals any provision of another law incorporated into a code adopted at the same session of the Legislature, the law repealing the provision so incorporated into the code

shall be construed to effect a repeal of the corresponding provision of the code.

Section 95. Effect of Repeal on Limitations.—Whenever a limitation or period of time, prescribed in any law for acquiring a right or barring a remedy, or for any other purpose, has begun to run before a law repealing such law takes effect, and the same or any other limitation is prescribed in any other law passed at the same session of the Legislature, the time which has already run shall be deemed part of the time prescribed as such limitation in such law passed at the same session of the Legislature.

Section 96. Effect of Repeal on Rights, Et Cetera.—The repeal of any civil provisions of a law shall not affect, or impair any act done, or right existing or accrued, or affect any civil suit, action or proceeding, pending to enforce any right under the authority of the law repealed. Such suit, action or proceeding shall and may be proceeded with and concluded under the laws in existence when such suit, action or proceeding was instituted, notwithstanding the repeal of such laws, or the same may be proceeded with and concluded under the provisions of the new law, if any, enacted.

Section 97. Repeal Does Not Revive Repealed Law.—The repeal of a repealing law shall not be construed to revive the law originally repealed.

ARTICLE VIII

DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND PHRASES

Section 101. Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when used in any law hereafter enacted, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:

(1) "Action," any proceeding in any court of this Commonwealth.

(2) "Administrator," a fiduciary appointed under authority of law by a register of wills or orphans' court to administer the estate of a decedent.

(3) "Adult," an individual twenty-one years of age or over.

(4) "Aeronautics," the art and science of transportation by aircraft including the facilities connected therewith.

(5) "Affidavit," a statement in writing of a fact or facts signed by the party making it, sworn to or affirmed before an officer authorized by the laws of this Commonwealth to take acknowledgments of deeds, or authorized to administer oaths, or before the particular officer or individual designated by law as the one before whom it is to or may be taken, and officially certified to in the case of an officer under his seal of office.

(6) "Aircraft," any contrivance used or designated for navigation of, or flight in, or to ascend into, the air, except a parachute or other contrivance designed and used primarily as safety equipment.

(7) "Airman," any member of a crew of an aircraft.

(8) "Airport," any place, either water or land, which is designed and used for the taking off and landing of aircraft including the facilities connected therewith.

(9) "Almshouse," the county home, poorhouse, home for the destitute, or any other building or place, by whatever title designated, where poor persons are maintained at the public expense.

(10) "Apiary," any place where one or more colonies or nuclei of bees are kept.

(11) "As now provided by law," a reference to the laws in force at the time when the law containing the phrase was finally enacted.

(12) "As provided by law," a reference to the laws in force at the particular time when the law containing the phrase is applied.

(13) "Association," any form of unincorporated enterprise owned by two or more persons other than a partnership or limited partnership.

(14) "Attorney at law," an individual admitted to practice law by a court of record of this Commonwealth.

(15) "Attorney of record," an attorney at law who is entered on the docket or record of a court as appearing for or representing a party in a legal proceeding.

(16) "Bequeath," includes devise.

(17) "Bequest," includes devise and legacy.

(18) "Bond," (a) an unconditional written undertaking under seal for the payment of money, or (b) a conditional written acknowledgment of being bound for the payment of money, to become void or effective on the performance of any act or the occurrence of any event therein expressed.

(19) "Bridge," includes the actual bridge and the approaches thereto, and the substructures and superstructures of both.

(20) "Certified public accountant," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice as a certified public accountant.

(21) "Child" or "children," includes children by birth or adoption.

(22) "Commission merchant," one who receives consignments of personal property to be sold for a commission or other compensation.

(23) "Commonwealth," the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

(24) "Convict," an individual who has been finally convicted of an indictable offense and is serving sentence in a penal institution.

(25) "Creditor," one to whom the performance of an obligation is owed.

(26) "Crime," any indictable offense.

(27) "Crosswalk," that portion of a highway at an intersection, or any portion of a highway, clearly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface.

(28) "Day," comprises the time from midnight to the next midnight.

(29) "Debtor," one who owes to another the performance of an obligation.

(30) "Decedent," either a testator or person dying intestate.

(31) "Dental hygienist," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice as a dental hygienist.

(32) "Dentist," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice dentistry.

(33) "Devise," includes bequeath.

(34) "Devise," includes bequest and legacy.

(35) "Devisee," includes legatee.

(36) "Doctor of medicine," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery in all its branches.

(37) "Domestic animal," any equine animal, bovine animal, sheep, goat and pig.

(38) "Effects," includes all personal property and any interest therein.

(39) "Executor," a fiduciary named in a will to execute its provisions and administer the estate of the testator.

(40) "Factor," one who receives consignments of personal property to be sold for a commission or other compensation.

(41) "Farm product," any agricultural, horticultural, vegetable, fruit, and floricultural product of the soil, livestock and meats, wool, hides, poultry, eggs, dairy products, nuts, mushrooms and honey.

(42) "Fiduciary," an executor, administrator, guardian, committee, receiver, trustee, assignee for the benefit of creditors, and any other person, association, partnership, or corporation, acting in any similar capacity.

(43) "Fiscal year," the year by or for which accounts are reckoned.

(44) "General election," the election held biennially on the Tuesday next following the first Monday of November in each even-numbered year.

(45) "Grantee," one to whom any estate or interest in real property other than a leasehold passes by conveyance.

(46) "Grantor," one from or by whom any estate or interest in real property other than a leasehold passes by conveyance.

(47) "Guardian," a fiduciary who legally has the care and management of the person, or the estate, or both, of another under legal disability.

(48) "Guardian ad litem," a fiduciary who is appointed to represent in legal proceedings another under legal disability.

(49) "Healing art," the science of diagnosis and treatment in any manner whatsoever of disease or any ailment of the human body.

(50) "Hereafter," a reference to the time after the time when the law containing such word takes effect.

(51) "Heretofore," a reference to the time previous to the time when the law containing such word takes effect.

(52) "Highway," a way or place of whatever nature open to the use of the public as a matter of right for purposes of vehicular traffic.

(53) "Individual," a natural person.

(54) "Insane person," an individual of unsound mind.

(55) "Intersection," the area embraced within the prolongation of the lateral boundary lines of two or more highways which join one another at an angle whether or not one such highway crosses the other.

(56) "Issue," as applied to the descent of estates, means all lawful, lineal descendants* of a common ancestor.

(57) "Judicial sale," a sale conducted by an officer or person authorized for the purpose by some competent tribunal.

(58) "Legacy," includes devise and bequest.

(59) "Legatee," includes devisee.

(60) "Legislature," the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

(61) "Lunatic," an individual of unsound mind.

(62) "Majority," when used in reference to age, means of the age of twenty-one years or over.

(63) "Medicine and surgery," the art and science having for their object the cure of diseases of and the preservation of the health of man, including all practice of the healing art with or without drugs, except healing by spiritual means or prayer.

(64) "Midwife," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice midwifery.

(65) "Minor," an individual under the age of twenty-one years.

(66) "Money," lawful money of the United States.

(67) "Month," a calendar month.

(68) "Motor boat," any boat propelled by any type of internal combustion motor.

(69) "Motorcycle," any vehicle of the bicycle or tri-

* "descendants" in the original.

cycle type operated by any type of internal combustion* motor.

(70) "Motor vehicle," any self propelled device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway, except tractors, power shovels, road machinery, agricultural machinery, and vehicles which move upon or are guided by a track or trolley.

(71) "Municipal corporation," a city, borough or incorporated town.

(72) "Municipal election," the election held on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November in each odd-numbered year.

(73) "Municipality," a city, borough or incorporated town.

(74) "Nighttime," the time from sunset to sunrise.

(75) "Non compos mentis," of unsound mind.

(76) "Notary," a notary public.

(77) "Now," in any provision of a law referring to other laws in force, or to persons in office, or to any facts or circumstances as existing, relates to the laws in force, or to the persons in office, or to the facts or circumstances existing, respectively, on the effective date of such provision.

(78) "Oath," includes affirmation.

(79) "Optometrist," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice optometry.

(80) "Osteopath," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice osteopathy.

(81) "Osteopathic surgeon," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice osteopathy and osteopathic surgery.

(82) "Parking," suffering a vehicle to stand on any highway while not actually engaged in a traffic movement nor in taking up or setting down passengers or merchandise.

(83) "Pedestrian," an individual afoot.

(84) "Person," includes a corporation, partnership and association, as well as a natural person.

(85) "Personal representative," the executor or administrator of a decedent.

(86) "Pharmacist," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice as a pharmacist.

(87) "Physician," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to engage in the practice of medicine and surgery in any or in all of its branches.

(88) "Political subdivision," any county, city, borough, incorporated town, township, school district and poor district.

(89) "Poultry," includes all domestic fowl.

* "combution" in the original.

(90) "Primary election," any election at which the members of qualified political parties nominate their candidates for public office.

(91) "Professional engineer," an individual licensed under the laws of the Commonwealth to practice as a professional engineer.

(92) "Property," includes both real and personal property.

(93) "Publish" or "published," as applied to the publication of a newspaper of general circulation means the place where such newspaper is originally issued and circulated.

(94) "Real estate broker," one licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to act as a real estate broker.

(95) "Real estate salesman," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to act as a real estate salesman.

(96) "Registered architect," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice architecture.

(97) "Registered nurse," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice nursing.

(98) "Safety zone," the area or space officially set aside within a highway for the use of pedestrians.

(99) "Signature," includes mark when the individual cannot write, his name being written near it, and witnessed by another who writes his own name.

(100) "Special election," any election authorized by law, other than a general, municipal or primary election.

(101) "State," when used in reference to the different parts of the United States, includes the District of Columbia and the several territories of the United States.

(102) "Surveyor," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice land surveying.

(103) "Sworn," includes affirmed.

(104) "Trustee," one in whom some estate, interest or power in or affecting property of any description is vested for the benefit of another.

(105) "Undertaker," one who is licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice as an undertaker, undertaker and embalmer, embalmer, funeral director or mortician.

(106) "Vehicle," a conveyance in or on which persons or property may be carried.

(107) "Verified," when used in reference to writings, means supported by oath or affirmation.

(108) "Veterinarian," an individual licensed under the laws of this Commonwealth to practice veterinary medicine and surgery.

(109) "Will," includes codicil.

(110) "Written," every legible representation of letters or numerals upon a material substance, except when used in reference to the signature of an instrument.

(111) "Year," a calendar year.

ARTICLE IX

REPEALS

Section 102. Repeals.—The following laws, or parts of laws, are hereby repealed absolutely:

The act approved the twenty-first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen (Pamphlet Laws, fourteen), entitled "An act to provide for the more speedy publication and distribution of the laws of this Commonwealth."

The act approved the twelfth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four (Pamphlet Laws, forty-three), entitled "An act regulating the publication of applications for local or special legislation."

The act approved the eighteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three (Pamphlet Laws, one hundred two), entitled "An act to provide for the immediate printing, distribution, filing and keeping of unbound copies of the laws of this Commonwealth as they are enacted from time to time."

The act approved the third day of June, one thousand nine hundred and eleven (Pamphlet Laws, six hundred sixty-four), entitled "An act regulating the printing of the laws of this Commonwealth."

The act approved the tenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and eleven (Pamphlet Laws, eight hundred seventy-two), entitled "An act in relation to the printing of appropriation bills in the Pamphlet Laws."

Section one of the act, approved the twenty-ninth day of April, one thousand nine hundred and fifteen (Pamphlet Laws, two hundred four), entitled "An act regulating the printing of the laws of this Commonwealth."

The act approved the sixteenth day of March, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three (Pamphlet Laws, eleven), entitled "An act providing the method in which amendatory legislation shall be printed in the session laws and for the interpretation thereof."

The act approved the seventeenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws, one thousand eight hundred eight), entitled "An act fixing the time when statutory law hereafter enacted shall become effective."

The act approved the twenty-third day of May, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-three (Pamphlet Laws, nine hundred forty-six), entitled "An act authorizing the Secretary of the Commonwealth, with the approval of the presiding officers of the General Assembly,

the Attorney General, and Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, to correct certain errors in the original copies of laws.”

The act approved the tenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-five (Pamphlet Laws, two hundred ninety-three), entitled “An act to amend the act, approved the seventeenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws, one thousand eight hundred eight), entitled ‘An act fixing the time when statutory law hereafter enacted shall become effective.’”

All other laws or parts of laws inconsistent with this law are hereby repealed.

APPROVED—The 28th day of May, A. D. 1937.

GEORGE H. EARLE

No. 283

AN ACT

Regulating and prescribing the computation and running of sentences for criminal offenses.

Method of computing sentences for criminal offenses.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That from and after the passage of this act, all sentences for criminal offenses of persons who at the time sentence is imposed are held in custody in default of bail, or otherwise, shall begin to run and be computed from the date of commitment for the offense for which said sentence shall be imposed, unless the person sentenced shall then be undergoing imprisonment under a sentence imposed for any other offense or offenses, in which case the said sentence shall begin to run and be computed, either from the date of imposition thereof or from the expiration of such other sentence or sentences, as the court shall, in its discretion, direct.

Date of commitment.

Section 2. The date of commitment referred to in section one of this act, shall be the date of the last commitment for the offense for which the sentence is imposed.

Court to state date of commitment in sentence.

Section 3. If the sentence imposed shall be to any penitentiary or prison other than that in which the person sentenced shall have been* held in custody, it shall be the duty of the court to state in the sentence the date of commitment of such person.

Inconsistent acts repealed.

Section 4. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith be and the same are hereby repealed.

* “been” inserted.

APPROVED—The 28th day of May, A. D. 1937.

GEORGE H. EARLE