

No. 1978-154

AN ACT

HB 123

Amending the act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), entitled "An act relating to counties of the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth classes; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," further providing for county public defenders to organize a State association and the payment of certain expenses thereof.

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

Section 1. Section 440, act of August 9, 1955 (P.L.323, No.130), known as "The County Code," amended August 11, 1967 (P.L.224, No.81), September 1, 1967 (P.L.289, No.120) and clauses (1) and (12) amended November 23, 1976 (P.L.1128, No.239), is amended to read:

Section 440. State Associations Authorized.—County officers of each county may organize for themselves a State association as follows:

(1) The county commissioners, together with the county solicitor and the chief clerk to the county commissioners and certain officers who are counterpart personnel in counties having a Home Rule Charter or optional form of government.

(2) The county controllers.

(3) The sheriffs.

(4) The district attorneys.

(5) The probation officers.

(6) The registers of wills and clerks of orphans' courts.

(7) The prothonotaries and clerks of courts of quarter sessions.

(8) The county treasurers.

(9) The recorders of deeds.

(10) The directors of veterans' affairs.

(11) The coroners.

(12) Jury commissioners.

(13) The county auditors.

(14) The public defenders.

Section 2. Section 442 of the act, amended April 28, 1961 (P.L.154, No.76), is amended to read:

Section 442. Deputies and Solicitors May Attend Annual Meetings.—The deputy controller, the deputy sheriff, the deputy register of wills, the deputy clerk of orphans' court, the deputy treasurer, the deputy prothonotary, the deputy clerk of the courts of quarter sessions, the first assistant district attorney, **[the] one assistant public defender and the** deputy recorder of deeds and the chief deputy coroner, with the approval of his principal, and the solicitor for each officer, may attend the annual

meetings of his respective associations either together with the controller, sheriff, register of wills, treasurer, prothonotary, clerk of the courts of quarter sessions, district attorney, *public defender*, recorder of deeds or coroner as the case may be or in his place.

Section 3. Subsection (b) of section 444 of the act, amended October 18, 1972 (P.L.969, No.235), is amended to read:

Section 444. Other Meeting Expenses Paid by Counties.—* * *

(b) In the case of county commissioners, county solicitor and county clerk, county controllers, county auditors, sheriffs, register of wills, clerks of orphans' courts, county treasurers, recorders of deeds, prothonotaries, clerks of courts of quarter sessions, *public defenders*, district attorneys, jury commissioners and coroners, the portion of the annual expenses charged to each county shall not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100), in the case of the directors of veterans' affairs the portion charged to each county shall not exceed fifty dollars (\$50), and in the case of the probation officers an annual membership subscription not exceeding six dollars (\$6) per member shall be paid by the county, and shall be in lieu of the expenses hereinbefore in this section provided for other county officers.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 28th day of September, A. D. 1978.

MILTON J. SHAPP