THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2822 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY FLYNN, SCHLOSSBERG, GALLOWAY, DELLOSO, KINSEY, HARRIS, HILL-EVANS, DeLUCA, LEE, SCHWEYER, GREEN, SANCHEZ, NEILSON, DEASY AND KORTZ, AUGUST 28, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, AUGUST 28, 2020

AN ACT

- 1 Providing for notification regarding COVID-19 among members and 2 staff members of the General Assembly.
- 3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 4 hereby enacts as follows:
- 5 Section 1. Short title.
- 6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the COVID-19
- 7 General Assembly Notification Act.
- 8 Section 2. Purpose.
- 9 The purpose of this act is to ensure transparency among the
- 10 members of the General Assembly and their staff during the
- 11 COVID-19 pandemic.
- 12 Section 3. Definitions.
- 13 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 14 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 15 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 16 "COVID-19." The coronavirus disease 2019, an infectious
- 17 disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus

- 1 2 that was first identified during December 2019 in Wuhan,
- 2 China.
- 3 Section 4. Notification.
- 4 (a) Notification of officers. -- A member or staff member of
- 5 the General Assembly who is diagnosed with COVID-19 or goes into
- 6 quarantine or isolation after being exposed to COVID-19 shall
- 7 immediately inform the legislative presiding officer of the
- 8 appropriate chamber, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of
- 9 the appropriate chamber and the Chief Clerk of the appropriate
- 10 chamber.
- 11 (b) Notification of other members and staff.--Within 24
- 12 hours after notice is provided to the appropriate individuals
- 13 under subsection (a), the other members and staff members of the
- 14 appropriate chamber shall be notified. The following shall
- 15 apply:
- 16 (1) Notification shall follow guidance issued by the
- 17 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department
- of Health.
- 19 (2) Notification shall be consistent with
- 20 confidentiality provisions included in applicable Federal or
- 21 State laws.
- 22 (c) Notification of other chamber. -- If a member or staff
- 23 member of one chamber of the General Assembly reports a positive
- 24 COVID-19 diagnosis or reports entrance into quarantine or
- 25 isolation, the members and staff members of the other chamber of
- 26 the General Assembly shall be notified, in accordance with the
- 27 requirements under subsection (b)(1) and (2).
- 28 Section 5. Expiration.
- 29 This act shall expire upon the termination or expiration
- 30 under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7301(c) (relating to general authority of

- 1 Governor) of the proclamation of disaster emergency issued by
- 2 the Governor on March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March
- 3 21, 2020), and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.
- 4 Section 6. Effective date.
- 5 This act shall take effect immediately.