



SENATE URBAN AFFAIRS & HOUSING COMMITTEE

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Bill Analysis

Bill Number: Senate Bill 179, P.N. 230

Prime Sponsor: Senator Greenleaf

Synopsis

An Act amending Title 48 (Lodging and Housing) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, consolidating statutory provisions on hotels; and repealing certain provisions of the Fire and Panic Act, The Landlord and Tenant Act of 1951, the Pennsylvania Innkeepers' Rights Act, the Infant Crib Safety Act and other acts relating to hotels.

Bill Summary

Senate Bill 179 consolidates several statutes relating to hotels and other lodging establishments. The statutes will become Chapter 13 of Title 48 (Lodging and Housing) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes. Statutes relating to hotel or tourism taxes have not been included in this legislation. It is not the intent of this consolidation to make revisions to the law other than the editorial changes needed to conform to the style of the consolidated statutes. However, the legislation does use the term "hotelkeeper" throughout to avoid the inconsistency of using "innkeeper" in some places, "hotelkeeper" in others, and "proprietor" in still others. By bringing all the laws together that deal with one particular subject, they are easier to research, read and understand.

The statutes consolidated in Chapter 13 cover topics such as:

- Requiring hotelkeepers to maintain a guest register which shows the name, residence, date of arrival and departure of guests;
- The right of hotelkeepers to deny accommodations to persons who refuse to pay, who are disorderly, or who possess controlled substances or illegal firearms;
- The right of a hotelkeeper to eject a person from the premises and to recover for damages to a room;
- Provisions relating to security such as posting notices
- Provisions relating to safety regulating tourist camp cabins or trailer heaters, and another one regulating cribs when a hotel provides a crib for an infant guest;

Pennsylvania remains the only state that has not completely consolidated its statutes.

Additional Information

Currently there is no public opposition to this legislation.