

## **COMMITTEE BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill:** House Bill 2331

**Printer's No.:** 3484

**Sponsor:** Rep. Stephens

**Prepared by:** Gregg Warner

**Synopsis:** This bill amends the Crimes Code, Title 18, and the Judicial Code, Title 42 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for sentencing for the illegal possession of firearms and amending the definition of "crime of violence."

### **Summary:**

#### **Crimes Code**

The bill amends section 6105(a.1) of the Pennsylvania Uniform Firearms Act of 1995 that lists the persons who may not possess, use or transfer firearms. If a person commits a felony enumerated in this section, the person may not possess, use or transfer a firearm. If the person violates this section, it is a felony of the second degree. The bill provides for a minimum prison sentence of five years for such a violation.

#### **Judicial Code**

The bill amends the definition of "crime of violence" in section 9714 (the two and three strikes law) to add the crime for which persons are sentenced under 18 Pa.C.S. §6105(a.1).

#### **Effective date**

This act takes effect in 60 days.

**Background:** The House of Representatives passed House Bill 2331 on May 23, 2012 by a vote of 190 to 7.

On August 16, 2012 the Senate Judiciary Committee held a public hearing on House Bill 2331 in Montgomeryville, Pennsylvania.