

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 471 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY LAUGHLIN, LANGERHOLC, COLEMAN, PHILLIPS-HILL,  
BROOKS, ROTHMAN, HUTCHINSON, MARTIN, J. WARD, PENNYCUICK,  
DUSH AND STEFANO, MARCH 18, 2025

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, MARCH 18, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions  
3 relating to criminal proceedings, providing for citizenship  
4 status of criminal defendants.

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

7 Section 1. Title 42 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 8704. Citizenship status of criminal defendants.

10 An attorney for the Commonwealth shall notify United States  
11 Immigration and Customs Enforcement if, at any point during the  
12 course of a criminal proceeding, the attorney for the  
13 Commonwealth obtains information reasonably indicating that a  
14 criminal defendant is not a citizen of the United States or  
15 otherwise has been present in this Commonwealth or the United  
16 States in violation of 8 U.S.C. Ch. 12 (relating to immigration  
17 and nationality).

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.