

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 316 Session of 2001

INTRODUCED BY MAYERNIK, FLICK AND STEELMAN, JANUARY 31, 2001

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JANUARY 31, 2001

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania  
 2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for common-law  
 3 marriage.

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

6 Section 1. Section 1103 of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania  
 7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 1103. Common-law marriage.

9 (a) General rule.--This part [shall not be construed to  
 10 change the existing law with regard to common-law marriage.]  
 11 constitutes the sole legal method for contracting marriage in  
 12 this Commonwealth. Common-law marriage is not recognized as  
 13 valid in this Commonwealth.

14 (b) Other jurisdictions.--Notwithstanding subsection (a), if  
 15 a right, obligation or liability under the laws of this  
 16 Commonwealth depends upon whether a common-law marriage has been  
 17 contracted in another jurisdiction, the law of that jurisdiction  
 18 shall apply to the determination of whether the common-law

1 marriage has been contracted.

2       Section 2. The amendment of 23 Pa.C.S. § 1103 shall not  
3 apply to a common-law marriage which is valid under the laws of  
4 this Commonwealth in effect on the effective date of this act.

5       Section 3. This act shall take effect in one year.