



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Association of Pennsylvania

Acts Affecting County Government 2024

The following is a list of acts and vetoes affecting county government that [passed in 2024](#). Included are the bill number and printer's number (bill version) and the date the act was signed into law. Copies of each act are available from the Legislature's website by clicking on the link.

[ACT 4](#) (HB 1564, P.N. 2568; March 28, 2024)- Amends the Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapist and Professional Counselors Act, creating a Licensed Associate Marriage and Family Therapist (LAMFT) credential for the commonwealth to add crucial resources for mental health care providers. This amendment expands the pool of qualified mental health care providers, consequently enhancing the accessibility of mental health services.

[ACT 8](#) (SB 55, P.N. 1169; April 15, 2024) - Amends Titles 23 (Domestic Relations) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), enhancing the criteria judges must consider for custody and visitation decisions, prioritizing child protection and mandates safety measures in custody order if there's a history or ongoing risk of abuse. Additionally, establishes annual training for judges and court staff on child abuse, adverse childhood experiences, and domestic violence.

[ACT 12](#) (HB 917, P.N. 2874; May 8, 2024) - Amends the Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), adopting the Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act that provides families with a voluntary and private process for resolving disputes instead of going to court.

[ACT 14](#) (SB 945, P.N. 1111; May 8, 2024) - Amends Title 16 (Counties), consolidating the freestanding County Code into Title 16 of the Consolidated Statutes. The bill provides several modifications to conform to case law developments, removes obsolete provision and incorporates other minor substantive changes.

[ACT 21](#) (SB277, P.N. 1589; June 10, 2024) - Amends the Rural Pennsylvania Revitalization Act, in restructuring the board of directors for the Center for Rural Pennsylvania and establishing the Rural Population Revitalization Commission. The Commission must issue biennial reports on population change in rural areas of the commonwealth, seeking recommendations focused on both in retaining and attracting residents to rural Pennsylvania while addressing challenges faced by rural communities due to population shifts. Two representatives from the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) are designated to serve on the Commission: a representative from a rural county with interest or experience in Human Services and a representative who holds office in a rural county.

[ACT 23](#) (SB1018, P.N. 1275; June 10, 2024) - Amends Title 2 (Administrative Law and Procedure), adding a subchapter to provide for child victims and witnesses, establishing rights to protect children who witness or are victims of abuse. The Department of Human Services (DHS) may

assign an advocate for the child and the court may permit alternative forms of testimony to support the child's well being. Further, a petition may be submitted on behalf of a child using department-developed form to access specific provision. The petition can be made by an attorney representing a county agency in the proceeding in which the child will testify.

[ACT 27](#) (SB 126, P.N. 1681; June 17, 2024) Amends Title 51 (Military Affairs), exempting 100% of disabled veteran's benefit payment from being counted as income when determining eligibility for any program or benefit provided by the commonwealth. Further, extends this exemption to unmarried surviving spouses of veterans.