

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 397 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY OWLETT, CAUSER, ECKER, RYAN, RAPP, CIRESI, STAATS, KAUFFMAN, GREINER, ZABEL, ROAE, KNOWLES, DUNBAR, SCHLOSSBERG, WARNER, DeLUCA, HILL-EVANS, ROWE, JAMES, HAMM, STRUZZI, WEBSTER, SANKEY, LAWRENCE, PISCIOTTANO, SCHLEGEL CULVER, GILLEN, SAINATO, STEPHENS, ARMANINI, POLINCHOCK, RIGBY AND KENYATTA, FEBRUARY 4, 2021

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, OCTOBER 25, 2022

AN ACT

1 ~~Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania~~ <--  
2 ~~Consolidated Statutes, in incentives for municipal volunteers~~  
3 ~~of fire companies and nonprofit emergency medical services~~  
4 ~~agencies, further providing for rejection and appeal.~~  
5 AMENDING TITLE 35 (HEALTH AND SAFETY) OF THE PENNSYLVANIA <--  
6 CONSOLIDATED STATUTES, IN NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT FUND,  
7 FURTHER PROVIDING FOR NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT FUND AND FOR  
8 EXPIRATION; IN COMMONWEALTH SERVICES, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR  
9 STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER AND FOR CURRICULUM AND TRAINING AND  
10 PROVIDING FOR CAPITAL GRANTS FOR MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS,  
11 FOR CAPITAL GRANTS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE TRAINING CENTERS,  
12 FOR MONEY FOR ONLINE TRAINING FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND FOR MONEY  
13 FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO PENNSYLVANIA BOMB SQUADS; IN VOLUNTEER  
14 FIREFIGHTERS, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR FIRE RELIEF FORMULA  
15 STUDY; IN GRANTS TO FIRE COMPANIES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
16 SERVICES COMPANIES, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR AWARD OF GRANTS FOR  
17 VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES AND FOR AWARD OF GRANTS FOR  
18 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES; IN INCENTIVES FOR  
19 MUNICIPAL VOLUNTEERS OF FIRE COMPANIES AND NONPROFIT  
20 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCIES, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR  
21 REJECTION AND APPEAL; IN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES,  
22 PROVIDING FOR TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE FOR ACTIVE  
23 VOLUNTEERS AND ESTABLISHING THE ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND  
24 LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND  
25 LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUND; IN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
26 SYSTEM, PROVIDING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RECRUITMENT, TRAINING  
27 AND RETENTION; AND ESTABLISHING THE EMS TRAINING FUND.  
28 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

1 hereby enacts as follows:

2 ~~Section 1. Section 79A24(a) of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania~~ <--  
3 ~~Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:~~

4 ~~§ 79A24. Rejection and appeal.~~

5 ~~(a) General rule. A governing body that establishes a tax~~  
6 ~~credit under this chapter shall adopt, by ordinance or~~  
7 ~~resolution, a process for rejecting a claim by an active~~  
8 ~~volunteer who does not satisfy all of the criteria established~~  
9 ~~under this chapter for each type of tax credit provided under~~  
10 ~~this chapter.~~

11 \* \* \*

12 ~~Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.~~

13 SECTION 1. SECTIONS 5602(F) AND 5604 OF TITLE 35 OF THE <--  
14 PENNSYLVANIA CONSOLIDATED STATUTES ARE AMENDED TO READ:

15 § 5602. NONPROFIT SECURITY GRANT FUND.

16 \* \* \*

17 (F) LAPSE OF FUNDS.--ALL UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED FUNDS  
18 REMAINING IN THE FUND AS OF JULY 1, [2024] 2029, SHALL LAPSE AND  
19 BE TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND.

20 § 5604. EXPIRATION.

21 THIS CHAPTER SHALL EXPIRE JULY 1, [2024] 2029.

22 SECTION 2. SECTION 7383 OF TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A  
23 SUBSECTION TO READ:

24 § 7383. STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER.

25 \* \* \*

26 (D) FIREWORKS SAFETY EDUCATION.--MONEY TRANSFERRED UNDER 3  
27 PA.C.S. § 1113(A) (7) (RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN FUNDS)  
28 SHALL BE USED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR A PUBLIC SAFETY CAMPAIGN  
29 ON THE PRECAUTIONS THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN USING FIREWORKS.  
30 THE COMMISSIONER MAY USE UP TO \$50,000 OF THE MONEY TRANSFERRED

1 FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

2 SECTION 3. SECTION 7383.1 OF TITLE 35 IS AMENDED TO READ:

3 § 7383.1. CURRICULUM [AND], TRAINING AND EDUCATION  
4 CERTIFICATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

5 (A) DUTY TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL  
6 ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, DELIVERY AND  
7 MAINTENANCE OF [A SYSTEM OF] FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES  
8 TRAINING AND AN EDUCATION CERTIFICATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

9 (B) TRAINING.--TRAINING SHALL BE LECTURE-BASED, HANDS ON OR  
10 ONLINE. TRAINING MAY BE CONDUCTED AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE  
11 ACADEMY, A COUNTY TRAINING CENTER, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE [, A LOCAL  
12 FIRE STATION OR OTHER APPROPRIATE AREA] OR OTHER APPROVED  
13 EDUCATIONAL TRAINING AGENCY. THE TRAINING RECORDS SHALL BE  
14 INCORPORATED INTO THE [TRAIN PA SYSTEM OR ANY OTHER SYSTEM]  
15 TRAINING AND EDUCATION CERTIFICATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM APPROVED  
16 BY THE COMMISSIONER.

17 (C) CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL  
18 PROVIDE A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO  
19 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES A FIRE OR EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING  
20 PROGRAM. THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION CERTIFICATION MANAGEMENT  
21 SYSTEM SHALL INCLUDE A METHOD BY WHICH THE TRAINEE CAN DOWNLOAD  
22 AND PRINT THE CERTIFICATE.

23 [(D) PUBLICATION.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL POST A COMPLETE  
24 LISTING OF THE AVAILABLE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING  
25 COURSES ON THE OFFICE'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.]

26 (E) ACCESSIBILITY.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL FACILITATE ACCESS  
27 TO EACH AVAILABLE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING COURSE  
28 THROUGH A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE OR PORTAL. THE  
29 INTERNET WEBSITE OR PORTAL SHALL RECORD FIREFIGHTER TRAINING AND  
30 CERTIFICATION. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN OR

1 PARTICIPATE IN AN EXISTING ELECTRONIC DATABASE OR PORTAL THAT  
2 MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

3 (1) ALLOWS FOR USER REGISTRATION FOR AN INDIVIDUAL  
4 TRAINEE OR AN ACCREDITED PROVIDER.

5 (2) ALLOWS A USER TO REGISTER FOR COURSES OFFERED  
6 THROUGH THE DATABASE OR PORTAL AND IN ANY OTHER FORMAT  
7 AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION.

8 (3) ESTABLISHES A COURSE COMPLETION TRANSCRIPT AND  
9 CERTIFICATE FOR A REGISTERED USER.

10 (4) FACILITATES COMMUNICATION AND ACCESS TO TRAINING  
11 MATERIALS BETWEEN AN ACCREDITED PROVIDER AND A REGISTERED  
12 TRAINEE USING THE DATABASE OR PORTAL.

13 (F) FEES.--THE COMMISSIONER MAY ESTABLISH A FEE OF NO MORE  
14 THAN \$1 PER COURSE ON THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION CERTIFICATION  
15 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, WHICH SHALL BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS  
16 WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER.

17 (G) ANNUAL REPORTS.--

18 (1) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON  
19 THE TRAINING AND EDUCATION CERTIFICATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.  
20 THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

21 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTERS IN THE SYSTEM,  
22 DELINEATED BETWEEN PAID AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER.

23 (II) THE NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTERS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH  
24 (I) WHO TOOK A COURSE ON THE SYSTEM DURING THE PREVIOUS  
25 YEAR.

26 (III) THE NUMBER OF FIREFIGHTERS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH  
27 (I) WHO ARE CERTIFIED AS FIREFIGHTER 1, FIREFIGHTER 2,  
28 FIRE INSTRUCTOR 1 OR FIRE OFFICER 1.

29 (IV) A SUMMARY OF COURSES THAT WERE TAKEN BY  
30 FIREFIGHTERS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I).

1           (V) A SUMMARY OF HOW THE FUNDS UNDER THIS SECTION  
2           WERE EXPENDED.

3           (2) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL SUBMIT THE ANNUAL REPORT  
4           UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2023, AND BY  
5           OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

6           (I) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
7           AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE  
8           SENATE.

9           (II) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
10           AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
11           OF REPRESENTATIVES.

12           (3) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL POST THE ANNUAL REPORT UNDER  
13           PARAGRAPH (1) ON THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER'S  
14           PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

15           SECTION 4. TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING SECTIONS TO READ:  
16           § 7385.1. CAPITAL GRANTS FOR MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

17           (A) SOURCE.--MONEY TRANSFERRED UNDER 3 PA.C.S. § 1113(A) (6)  
18           (RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN FUNDS) SHALL BE UTILIZED BY  
19           THE COMMISSIONER TO ADMINISTER CAPITAL GRANTS.

20           (B) RECIPIENTS.--MUNICIPAL AND COMBINATION FIRE DEPARTMENTS  
21           RECOGNIZED BY THE COMMISSIONER UNDER STANDARDS DEVELOPED THROUGH  
22           RULES AND GUIDELINES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE FIRE  
23           ADVISORY BOARD MAY BE RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS UNDER SUBSECTION (A)  
24           UPON APPLICATION.

25           (C) PURPOSES.--CAPITAL GRANTS ADMINISTERED TO RECIPIENTS  
26           UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE USED TO:

27           (1) ESTABLISH OR MODERNIZE FACILITIES THAT HOUSE  
28           FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCES OR RESCUE VEHICLES.

29           (2) ACQUIRE OR RENOVATE EXISTING STRUCTURES TO HOUSE  
30           FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCES OR RESCUE VEHICLES OR FOR

1 THE CONSTRUCTION OR MODERNIZATION OF FACILITIES.

2 (3) REPAIR OR PURCHASE FIREFIGHTING, AMBULANCE OR RESCUE  
3 EQUIPMENT AS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE PROPER AND ADEQUATE  
4 TRAINING.

5 (D) RESTRICTIONS.--CAPITAL GRANTS ADMINISTERED UNDER THIS  
6 SECTION MAY NOT BE USED FOR:

7 (1) OPERATING EXPENSES.

8 (2) REFINANCING OF RENOVATED STRUCTURES.

9 (3) REFINANCING THE CONSTRUCTION OR MODERNIZATION OF  
10 FACILITIES.

11 (4) APPARATUS EQUIPMENT, COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT OR  
12 ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT.

13 (5) REDUCTION OF DEBT OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS ISSUED PRIOR  
14 TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

15 (E) APPLICATIONS.--THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

16 (1) EVERY APPLICATION FOR A CAPITAL GRANT SHALL BE  
17 ACCOMPANIED BY A NOTARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE ENTITY  
18 MAKING THE APPLICATION ACCOMPANIED WITH INFORMATION  
19 SUFFICIENT TO SHOW NEED FOR THE GRANT FUNDING.

20 (2) APPLICATIONS SHALL BE REVIEWED BY THE APPLICATION  
21 REVIEW COMMITTEE UTILIZING CRITERIA ESTABLISHED UNDER  
22 SUBSECTION (B).

23 (F) AMOUNTS AND CRITERIA.--THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

24 (1) CAPITAL GRANT AMOUNTS AND THE CRITERIA FOR  
25 DETERMINING AMOUNTS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSIONER  
26 IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE FIRE ADVISORY BOARD.

27 (2) AN ENTITY MAY BE AWARDED A CAPITAL GRANT, IF  
28 AVAILABLE, FOR AN APPROVED PROJECT IN LIEU OF APPROVED  
29 REIMBURSEMENT PAYMENTS OR, IF NOT AVAILABLE, SHALL RECEIVE  
30 PAYMENTS IN THE FORM OF REIMBURSEMENTS.

1 (G) USE.--CAPITAL GRANTS MAY BE USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE  
2 FUNDING AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTION 7813(E) (RELATING TO AWARD OF  
3 GRANTS) IF AN APPLICANT IS OFFICIALLY PROCEEDING WITH AN  
4 APPROVED PROJECT EVIDENCED BY REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AS  
5 DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

6 (H) ADMINISTRATION.--THE COMMISSIONER MAY USE UP TO \$50,000  
7 OF THE FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE  
8 COSTS.

9 (I) ANNUAL REPORTS.--

10 (1) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON  
11 THE CAPITAL GRANTS ADMINISTERED UNDER THIS SECTION. THE  
12 REPORT SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

13 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR  
14 CAPITAL GRANTS.

15 (II) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS APPROVED AND  
16 THE AMOUNTS FUNDED FOR EACH RECIPIENT.

17 (III) AN ANALYSIS OF HOW THE GRANTS WERE USED BY  
18 EACH RECIPIENT.

19 (2) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL SUBMIT THE ANNUAL REPORT  
20 UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2023, AND BY  
21 OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

22 (I) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
23 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE  
24 SENATE.

25 (II) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
26 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
27 OF REPRESENTATIVES.

28 (3) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL POST THE ANNUAL REPORT UNDER  
29 PARAGRAPH (1) ON THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER'S  
30 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

1 § 7385.2. CAPITAL GRANTS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE TRAINING  
2 CENTERS.

3 (A) SOURCE.--MONEY TRANSFERRED UNDER 3 PA.C.S. § 1113(A) (5)  
4 (RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN FUNDS) SHALL BE UTILIZED BY  
5 THE COMMISSIONER TO ADMINISTER CAPITAL GRANTS.

6 (B) RECIPIENTS.--EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING CENTERS,  
7 COMMUNITY COLLEGES, COUNTY-OWNED FACILITIES, MUNICIPAL OR FIRE  
8 DEPARTMENT-OWNED FACILITIES OR NONPROFIT COUNTYWIDE ASSOCIATIONS  
9 RECOGNIZED BY THE COMMISSIONER UNDER STANDARDS DEVELOPED THROUGH  
10 RULES AND GUIDELINES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE FIRE  
11 ADVISORY BOARD MAY BE RECIPIENTS OF GRANTS UNDER SUBSECTION (A)  
12 UPON APPLICATION. A PRIVATELY OWNED FACILITY SHALL NOT BE  
13 ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT UNDER SUBSECTION (A).

14 (C) PURPOSES.--CAPITAL GRANTS ADMINISTERED TO RECIPIENTS  
15 UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE USED TO:

16 (1) ESTABLISH OR MODERNIZE FACILITIES THAT HOUSE  
17 FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCES OR RESCUE VEHICLES.

18 (2) ACQUIRE OR RENOVATE EXISTING STRUCTURES TO HOUSE  
19 FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCES OR RESCUE VEHICLES OR FOR  
20 THE CONSTRUCTION OR MODERNIZATION OF FACILITIES.

21 (3) REPAIR OR PURCHASE FIREFIGHTING, AMBULANCE OR RESCUE  
22 EQUIPMENT AS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE PROPER AND ADEQUATE  
23 TRAINING.

24 (D) RESTRICTIONS.--CAPITAL GRANTS ADMINISTERED UNDER THIS  
25 SECTION MAY NOT BE USED FOR:

26 (1) OPERATING EXPENSES.

27 (2) REFINANCING OF RENOVATED STRUCTURES.

28 (3) REFINANCING THE CONSTRUCTION OR MODERNIZATION OF  
29 FACILITIES.

30 (4) APPARATUS EQUIPMENT, COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT OR



1 ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT.

2 (5) REDUCTION OF DEBT OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS ISSUED PRIOR  
3 TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

4 (E) APPLICATIONS.--THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

5 (1) EVERY APPLICATION FOR A CAPITAL GRANT SHALL BE  
6 ACCOMPANIED BY A NOTARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE ENTITY  
7 MAKING THE APPLICATION ACCOMPANIED WITH INFORMATION  
8 SUFFICIENT TO SHOW NEED FOR THE GRANT FUNDING.

9 (2) APPLICATIONS SHALL BE REVIEWED BY THE APPLICATION  
10 REVIEW COMMITTEE UTILIZING CRITERIA ESTABLISHED UNDER  
11 SUBSECTION (B).

12 (F) AMOUNTS AND CRITERIA.--THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

13 (1) CAPITAL GRANT AMOUNTS AND THE CRITERIA FOR  
14 DETERMINING AMOUNTS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSIONER  
15 IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE FIRE ADVISORY BOARD.

16 (2) AN ENTITY MAY BE AWARDED A CAPITAL GRANT, IF  
17 AVAILABLE, FOR AN APPROVED PROJECT IN LIEU OF APPROVED  
18 REIMBURSEMENT PAYMENTS OR, IF NOT AVAILABLE, SHALL RECEIVE  
19 PAYMENTS IN THE FORM OF REIMBURSEMENTS.

20 (G) USE.--CAPITAL GRANTS MAY BE USED IN COMBINATION WITH THE  
21 FUNDING AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTION 7813(E) (RELATING TO AWARD OF  
22 GRANTS) IF AN APPLICANT IS OFFICIALLY PROCEEDING WITH AN  
23 APPROVED PROJECT EVIDENCED BY REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AS  
24 DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

25 (H) ADMINISTRATION.--THE COMMISSIONER MAY USE UP TO \$50,000  
26 OF THE FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE  
27 COSTS.

28 (I) ANNUAL REPORTS.--

29 (1) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON  
30 THE CAPITAL GRANTS ADMINISTERED UNDER THIS SECTION. THE

1 REPORT SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

2 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR  
3 CAPITAL GRANTS.

4 (II) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS APPROVED AND  
5 THE AMOUNTS FUNDED FOR EACH RECIPIENT.

6 (III) AN ANALYSIS OF HOW THE GRANTS WERE USED BY  
7 EACH RECIPIENT.

8 (2) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL SUBMIT THE ANNUAL REPORT  
9 UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2023, AND BY  
10 OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

11 (I) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
12 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE  
13 SENATE.

14 (II) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
15 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
16 OF REPRESENTATIVES.

17 (3) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL POST THE ANNUAL REPORT UNDER  
18 PARAGRAPH (1) ON THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER'S  
19 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

20 § 7388.1. MONEY FOR ONLINE TRAINING FOR FIREFIGHTERS.

21 MONEY TRANSFERRED UNDER 3 PA.C.S. § 1113(A)(2) (RELATING TO  
22 DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN FUNDS) SHALL BE UTILIZED BY THE  
23 COMMISSIONER FOR THE PURPOSES UNDER SECTION 7388 (RELATING TO  
24 ONLINE TRAINING FOR FIREFIGHTERS).

25 § 7389. MONEY FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO PENNSYLVANIA BOMB SQUADS.

26 (A) SOURCE.--MONEY TRANSFERRED UNDER 3 PA.C.S. § 1113(A)  
27 (7.1) (RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN FUNDS) SHALL BE  
28 UTILIZED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO PROVIDE REIMBURSEMENTS TO  
29 PENNSYLVANIA BOMB SQUADS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

30 (B) RECIPIENTS.--A PENNSYLVANIA BOMB SQUAD ACCREDITED BY THE

1 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND CERTIFIED IN HAZARDOUS  
2 DEVICES TRAINING SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A REIMBURSEMENT  
3 UNDER THIS SECTION FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REMOVAL,  
4 TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND DESTRUCTION OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS,  
5 DISPLAY FIREWORKS OR COMBUSTIBLES, INCLUDING FOR ANY OF THE  
6 FOLLOWING:

7 (1) ESTABLISHING, EXPANDING OR MODERNIZING FACILITIES  
8 THAT WILL STORE CONSUMER FIREWORKS, DISPLAY FIREWORKS OR  
9 COMBUSTIBLES, INCLUDING UPFRONT COSTS FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY  
10 IMPROVEMENTS OF THE FACILITIES.

11 (2) THE TRANSPORTATION OF FIREWORKS FROM THE PLACE OF  
12 CONFISCATION, TO-AND-FROM STORAGE FACILITIES AND TO THE PLACE  
13 OF DESTRUCTION OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS, DISPLAY FIREWORKS OR  
14 COMBUSTIBLES.

15 (3) PERSONNEL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONFISCATION,  
16 TRANSPORTATION AND DESTRUCTION OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS, DISPLAY  
17 FIREWORKS OR COMBUSTIBLES.

18 (4) EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR THE REMOVAL, TRANSPORTATION,  
19 STORAGE AND DESTRUCTION OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS, DISPLAY  
20 FIREWORKS OR COMBUSTIBLES.

21 (5) THE DESTRUCTION OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS, DISPLAY  
22 FIREWORKS OR COMBUSTIBLES.

23 (6) ANY OTHER COSTS RELATED TO THE REMOVAL,  
24 TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND DESTRUCTION OF CONSUMER  
25 FIREWORKS, DISPLAY FIREWORKS OR COMBUSTIBLES DEEMED  
26 APPROPRIATE BY THE COMMISSIONER.

27 (C) RESTRICTIONS.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ONLY PROVIDE A  
28 REIMBURSEMENT UNDER THIS SECTION WHEN RECEIPTS ARE PROVIDED FOR  
29 THE ACTUAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REMOVAL, TRANSPORTATION,  
30 STORAGE AND DESTRUCTION OF CONSUMER FIREWORKS, DISPLAY FIREWORKS

1 OR COMBUSTIBLES AND EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

2 (1) THE PENNSYLVANIA BOMB SQUAD MAKES A GOOD FAITH  
3 EFFORT TO RECOVER ANY COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REMOVAL,  
4 TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND DESTRUCTION OF CONSUMER  
5 FIREWORKS, DISPLAY FIREWORKS OR COMBUSTIBLES UNDER 3 PA.C.S.  
6 § 1115(B) (RELATING TO REMOVAL, STORAGE AND DESTRUCTION) FROM  
7 THE OWNER OF THE CONSUMER FIREWORKS AND IS UNABLE TO RECOVER  
8 THE FULL OR PARTIAL AMOUNT OF THE COSTS.

9 (2) THE COSTS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT,  
10 EXPANSION OR MODERNIZATION OF FACILITIES THAT WILL STORE  
11 CONSUMER FIREWORKS, DISPLAY FIREWORKS OR COMBUSTIBLES.

12 (D) APPLICATIONS.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL DEVELOP AN  
13 APPLICATION FORM FOR THE REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENTS UNDER THIS  
14 SECTION.

15 (E) AMOUNTS AND CRITERIA.--REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNTS FOR ACTUAL  
16 COSTS AND THE CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING THE AMOUNTS UNDER THIS  
17 SECTION SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

18 (F) ADMINISTRATION.--THE COMMISSIONER MAY USE UP TO 3% OF  
19 THE MONEY TRANSFERRED UNDER 3 PA.C.S. § 1113(A) (7.1) FOR  
20 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS UNDER THIS SECTION.

21 (G) ANNUAL REPORT.--

22 (1) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON  
23 THE REIMBURSEMENTS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION. THE REPORT  
24 SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

25 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

26 (II) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS APPROVED AND  
27 THE AMOUNTS FUNDED FOR EACH RECIPIENT.

28 (III) AN ANALYSIS OF HOW THE FUNDS WERE USED BY EACH  
29 RECIPIENT.

30 (2) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL SUBMIT THE ANNUAL REPORT

1 UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2023, AND BY  
2 OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

3 (I) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
4 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE  
5 SENATE.

6 (II) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
7 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
8 OF REPRESENTATIVES.

9 (3) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL POST THE ANNUAL REPORT UNDER  
10 PARAGRAPH (1) ON THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER'S  
11 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

12 SECTION 5. SECTION 7419.1(A) (6) INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH OF  
13 TITLE 35 IS AMENDED TO READ:

14 § 7419.1. FIRE RELIEF FORMULA STUDY.

15 (A) STUDY.--THE STATE FIRE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL HAVE THE  
16 FOLLOWING DUTIES:

17 \* \* \*

18 (6) NO LATER THAN [NOVEMBER 30, 2022] DECEMBER 31, 2023,  
19 ISSUE A REPORT ON THE BOARD'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
20 REGARDING THE FIRE RELIEF FUNDING FORMULA AND FIRE RELIEF  
21 SERVICES TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

22 \* \* \*

23 SECTION 6. SECTIONS 7813(B) (1) AND (3) AND 7823(B) (1) AND  
24 (3) OF TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED AND THE SUBSECTIONS ARE AMENDED BY  
25 ADDING PARAGRAPHS TO READ:

26 § 7813. AWARD OF GRANTS.

27 \* \* \*

28 (B) LIMITS.--

29 (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3), GRANTS SHALL BE  
30 NOT LESS THAN \$2,500 AND NOT MORE THAN [\$15,000] \$20,000 PER

1 FIRE COMPANY.

2 \* \* \*

3 (3) IN A MUNICIPALITY WHERE THERE ARE TWO OR MORE  
4 VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES AND IF TWO OR MORE VOLUNTEER FIRE  
5 COMPANIES CONSOLIDATED THEIR USE OF EQUIPMENT, FIREFIGHTERS  
6 AND SERVICES WITHIN [10] 20 YEARS PRECEDING THE DATE OF THE  
7 CURRENT YEAR APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE, THE  
8 CONSOLIDATED ENTITY SHALL BE DEEMED ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A  
9 GRANT NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF THE COMBINED TOTAL FOR  
10 WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES WOULD HAVE BEEN ELIGIBLE HAD  
11 THEY NOT CONSOLIDATED.

12 \* \* \*

13 (5) IN A MUNICIPALITY WHERE ONE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY  
14 AND ONE EMS COMPANY CONSOLIDATE THEIR USE OF EQUIPMENT,  
15 PERSONNEL AND SERVICES WITHIN 20 YEARS PRECEDING THE DATE OF  
16 THE CURRENT YEAR APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE, THE  
17 CONSOLIDATED ENTITY SHALL BE DEEMED ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A  
18 GRANT NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF THE COMBINED TOTAL FOR  
19 WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES WOULD HAVE BEEN ELIGIBLE HAD  
20 THEY NOT CONSOLIDATED.

21 § 7823. AWARD OF GRANTS.

22 \* \* \*

23 (B) LIMITS.--

24 (1) GRANTS SHALL BE NOT LESS THAN \$2,500 AND NOT MORE  
25 THAN [10,000] \$15,000 PER EMS COMPANY.

26 \* \* \*

27 (3) IF TWO OR MORE EMS COMPANIES CONSOLIDATED THEIR USE  
28 OF EQUIPMENT, PERSONNEL AND SERVICES WITHIN [10] 20 YEARS  
29 PRECEDING THE DATE OF THE CURRENT YEAR APPLICATION SUBMISSION  
30 DEADLINE, THE CONSOLIDATED ENTITY SHALL BE DEEMED ELIGIBLE TO

1 RECEIVE A GRANT NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF THE COMBINED  
2 TOTAL FOR WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES WOULD HAVE BEEN  
3 ELIGIBLE HAD THEY NOT CONSOLIDATED.

4 (4) IN A MUNICIPALITY WHERE ONE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY  
5 AND ONE EMS COMPANY CONSOLIDATE THEIR USE OF EQUIPMENT,  
6 PERSONNEL AND SERVICES WITHIN 20 YEARS PRECEDING THE DATE OF  
7 THE CURRENT YEAR APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE, THE  
8 CONSOLIDATED ENTITY SHALL BE DEEMED ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A  
9 GRANT NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF THE COMBINED TOTAL FOR  
10 WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES WOULD HAVE BEEN ELIGIBLE HAD  
11 THEY NOT CONSOLIDATED.

12 \* \* \*

13 SECTION 7. SECTION 79A24(A) OF TITLE 35 IS AMENDED TO READ:  
14 § 79A24. REJECTION AND APPEAL.

15 (A) GENERAL RULE.--A GOVERNING BODY THAT ESTABLISHES A TAX  
16 CREDIT UNDER THIS CHAPTER SHALL ADOPT, BY ORDINANCE OR  
17 RESOLUTION, A PROCESS FOR REJECTING A CLAIM BY AN ACTIVE  
18 VOLUNTEER WHO DOES NOT SATISFY ALL OF THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED  
19 UNDER THIS CHAPTER FOR EACH TYPE OF TAX CREDIT PROVIDED UNDER  
20 THIS CHAPTER.

21 \* \* \*

22 SECTION 8. TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A CHAPTER TO READ:

23 CHAPTER 79B

24 TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE FOR ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

25 SUBCHAPTER

26 A. PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

27 B. ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

28 SUBCHAPTER A

29 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

30 SEC.

1 79B01. DEFINITIONS.

2 § 79B01. DEFINITIONS.

3 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS CHAPTER  
4 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE  
5 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

6 "ACTIVE VOLUNTEER." A VOLUNTEER FOR A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION  
7 WHO SATISFIES THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA UNDER SECTION 79B12(A)  
8 (RELATING TO ELIGIBILITY), RECEIVES A CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY  
9 AND COMPLIES WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM.

10 "AGENCY." THE PENNSYLVANIA HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE  
11 AGENCY.

12 "APPROVED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING." AN EDUCATIONAL  
13 INSTITUTION OFFERING A POSTSECONDARY PROGRAM OF EDUCATION  
14 LOCATED IN THIS COMMONWEALTH AND APPROVED BY THE AGENCY.

15 "APPROVED PROGRAM OF EDUCATION." A DEGREE-GRANTING OR  
16 CERTIFICATE-GRANTING CURRICULUM, COURSE OF STUDY OR TRAINING  
17 PROGRAM REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE INTO A SPECIFIC CAREER TO BE  
18 PURSUED ON A FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME BASIS OR ITS EQUIVALENT AS  
19 DETERMINED BY THE AGENCY, AT AN APPROVED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
20 LEARNING.

21 "CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY." A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE  
22 AGENCY UNDER SECTION 79B12(B) THAT CERTIFIES THAT AN ACTIVE  
23 VOLUNTEER SATISFIES THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA UNDER SECTION  
24 79B12(A).

25 "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY." AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
26 8103 (RELATING TO DEFINITIONS).

27 "FUND." THE ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE  
28 PROGRAM FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 79B21(A) (RELATING TO  
29 ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUND).

30 "PROGRAM." THE ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE



1 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 79B11 (RELATING TO  
2 ESTABLISHMENT).

3 "QUALIFIED APPLICANT." AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER WHO QUALIFIES FOR  
4 TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE UNDER SUBCHAPTER B (RELATING TO  
5 ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM).

6 "TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE." REIMBURSEMENT PROVIDED BY THE  
7 AGENCY FOR TUITION OR LOANS UNDER THE PROGRAM OR IN A FORM OF  
8 LOAN FORGIVENESS.

9 "VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY." A NONPROFIT CHARTERED CORPORATION,  
10 ASSOCIATION OR ORGANIZATION LOCATED IN THIS COMMONWEALTH THAT  
11 PROVIDES FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES AND MAY OFFER OTHER VOLUNTARY  
12 EMERGENCY SERVICES WITHIN THIS COMMONWEALTH.

13 "VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION." A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY OR  
14 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY.

15 SUBCHAPTER B

16 ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
17 SEC.

18 79B11. ESTABLISHMENT.

19 79B12. ELIGIBILITY.

20 79B13. TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE.

21 79B14. PROMISSORY NOTE.

22 79B15. AMOUNT OF TUITION OR LOAN PAYMENTS.

23 79B16. LIMITATION ON TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE.

24 79B17. RECOUPMENT OF TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.

25 79B18. SERVICE RECORDS.

26 79B19. VERIFICATION OF ACTIVE VOLUNTEER STATUS.

27 79B20. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

28 79B21. ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

29 FUND.

30 79B22. REGULATIONS.

1 § 79B11. ESTABLISHMENT.

2 THE ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS  
3 ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE AGENCY TO PROVIDE TUITION OR LOAN  
4 ASSISTANCE TO ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS WITH VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS WHO  
5 ARE STUDENTS AT APPROVED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.

6 § 79B12. ELIGIBILITY.

7 (A) CRITERIA.--UPON SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE  
8 IN THE PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGENCY'S REGULATIONS,  
9 RULES OR GUIDELINES UNDER SECTION 79B22 (RELATING TO  
10 REGULATIONS), AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE TUITION  
11 OR LOAN ASSISTANCE IF THE INDIVIDUAL SATISFIES ALL OF THE  
12 FOLLOWING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

13 (1) IS A RESIDENT OF THIS COMMONWEALTH.

14 (2) IS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER.

15 (3) HAS PARTICIPATED IN NOT LESS THAN 30% OR, IF THE  
16 INDIVIDUAL WAS ENROLLED AS A STUDENT IN A HIGH SCHOOL OR IN  
17 AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF EDUCATION AT AN APPROVED INSTITUTION  
18 OF HIGHER LEARNING WITHIN THE ONE-YEAR PERIOD BEFORE THE  
19 INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION TO THE AGENCY FOR TUITION  
20 OR LOAN ASSISTANCE, NOT LESS THAN 15% OF A VOLUNTEER  
21 ORGANIZATION'S ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE ONE-YEAR PERIOD BEFORE  
22 THE INDIVIDUAL SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION TO THE AGENCY FOR  
23 TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE. THE ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE, BUT  
24 NOT BE LIMITED TO, TRAINING, DRILLS, EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
25 CALLS, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT, FUNDRAISING OR  
26 OTHER EVENTS AND PROJECTS THAT AID THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF  
27 THE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION.

28 (4) HAS ENROLLED AS A STUDENT IN AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF  
29 EDUCATION AT AN APPROVED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING AFTER  
30 THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION.

1           (5) ACCEPTS AN OBLIGATION TO SERVE AS AN ACTIVE  
2           VOLUNTEER WITH A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR  
3           PRIOR TO ENROLLING IN AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF EDUCATION AND AT  
4           LEAST FIVE YEARS AFTER COMPLETING AN APPROVED PROGRAM OF  
5           EDUCATION.

6           (6) HAS SIGNED A PROMISSORY NOTE OBLIGATING THE  
7           INDIVIDUAL TO REPAY THE FULL AMOUNT OF TUITION OR LOAN  
8           ASSISTANCE RECEIVED BY THE INDIVIDUAL IF THE INDIVIDUAL FAILS  
9           TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PROGRAM.

10           (7) IS IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION  
11           FOR WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL IS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER.

12           (B) CERTIFICATE.--THE AGENCY SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF  
13           ELIGIBILITY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO SATISFIES THE ELIGIBILITY  
14           CRITERIA UNDER SUBSECTION (A).

15           § 79B13. TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE.

16           FROM MONEY APPROPRIATED FOR THE PROGRAM, TUITION OR LOAN  
17           ASSISTANCE SHALL BE PROVIDED TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS TO PURSUE  
18           APPROVED PROGRAMS OF EDUCATION ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF  
19           THIS SECTION.

20           § 79B14. PROMISSORY NOTE.

21           BEFORE PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST SIGN  
22           A PROMISSORY NOTE OBLIGATING THE INDIVIDUAL TO REPAY THE FULL  
23           AMOUNT OF THE TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE RECEIVED BY THE  
24           INDIVIDUAL IF THE INDIVIDUAL FAILS TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS  
25           UNDER THE PROGRAM AS SPECIFIED UNDER SECTION 79B17 (RELATING TO  
26           RECOUPMENT OF TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS).

27           § 79B15. AMOUNT OF TUITION OR LOAN PAYMENTS.

28           (A) FULL-TIME STUDENTS.--PAYMENTS OF TUITION OR LOAN  
29           ASSISTANCE TO A FULL-TIME STUDENT SHALL BE \$1,000 PER ACADEMIC  
30           YEAR.

1 (B) PART-TIME STUDENTS.--PAYMENTS OF TUITION OR LOAN  
2 ASSISTANCE TO A PART-TIME STUDENT SHALL NOT EXCEED \$500 FOR AN  
3 ACADEMIC YEAR.

4 (C) FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.--TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE  
5 SHALL BE GRANTED ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

6 § 79B16. LIMITATION ON TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE.

7 AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT MAY NOT RECEIVE TUITION OR LOAN  
8 ASSISTANCE FOR A TOTAL OF MORE THAN FIVE ACADEMIC YEARS OR AN  
9 EQUIVALENT AMOUNT OF TIME AS DETERMINED BY THE AGENCY. TUITION  
10 OR LOAN ASSISTANCE MUST BE USED WITHIN SEVEN YEARS OF  
11 GRADUATION.

12 § 79B17. RECOUPMENT OF TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.

13 (A) NONCOMPLIANCE.--AN INDIVIDUAL WHO FAILS TO SATISFY THE  
14 REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE  
15 COMMONWEALTH FOR THE FULL AMOUNT OF TUITION OR LOAN ASSISTANCE  
16 RECEIVED BY THE INDIVIDUAL, UNLESS THE FAILURE AND INABILITY TO  
17 DO SO IS A RESULT OF AN INJURY WHILE RESPONDING TO AN EMERGENCY  
18 AS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER THAT PREVENTS THE INDIVIDUAL FROM  
19 COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PROGRAM. THE  
20 PROMISSORY NOTE UNDER SECTION 79B14 (RELATING TO PROMISSORY  
21 NOTE) SHALL BE REPAID BY THE INDIVIDUAL UPON DEMAND BY THE  
22 AGENCY ON A SCHEDULE AS THE AGENCY MAY DETERMINE.

23 (B) NOTICE.--A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION SHALL NOTIFY THE  
24 AGENCY IF AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FAILS TO SATISFY THE VOLUNTEER  
25 REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PROGRAM.

26 § 79B18. SERVICE RECORDS.

27 (A) LOGS.--FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
28 REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PROGRAM, THE CHIEF OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE  
29 COMPANY OR THE SUPERVISOR OR CHIEF OF AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
30 SERVICES AGENCY OR THEIR DESIGNEES SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN

1 A SERVICE LOG THAT DOCUMENTS THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY AN ACTIVE  
2 VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING A CALCULATION  
3 OF THE AMOUNT OF TIME THE ACTIVE VOLUNTEER CONDUCTS ACTIVITIES  
4 WITH THE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION.

5 (B) REVIEW.--SERVICE LOGS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) SHALL BE  
6 SUBJECT TO PERIODIC REVIEW BY THE AGENCY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF  
7 AUDITOR GENERAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
8 REQUIREMENTS UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER.

9 § 79B19. VERIFICATION OF ACTIVE VOLUNTEER STATUS.

10 (A) SELF-CERTIFICATION.--AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL SIGN AND SUBMIT  
11 AN APPLICATION TO THE CHIEF OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY OR THE  
12 SUPERVISOR OR CHIEF OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY TO  
13 ATTEST THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER.

14 (B) INJURED VOLUNTEER.--NOTWITHSTANDING THE VOLUNTEER  
15 REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PROGRAM, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS INJURED  
16 WHILE RESPONDING TO AN EMERGENCY AS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER WHO CAN  
17 NO LONGER SERVE AS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER BECAUSE OF THE INJURY AND  
18 WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE  
19 ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM FOR FIVE YEARS FROM THE  
20 DATE OF THE INJURY IF ABLE TO DO SO OR UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OR  
21 (B), AS APPROPRIATE.

22 (C) LOCAL SIGN-OFF.--THE CHIEF AND ANOTHER OFFICER OF THE  
23 VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY AND THE SUPERVISOR OR CHIEF AND ANOTHER  
24 OFFICER OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY SHALL SIGN THE  
25 APPLICATION ATTESTING THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER  
26 UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OR THAT THE INDIVIDUAL CAN NO LONGER SERVE  
27 AS AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER DUE TO INJURY UNDER SUBSECTION (B). THE  
28 APPLICATION SHALL THEN BE FORWARDED TO THE AGENCY FOR FINAL  
29 REVIEW AND PROCESSING.

30 § 79B20. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

1 THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF THE PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
2 BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022, AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER SHALL  
3 NOT EXCEED 3.5% OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE  
4 AGENCY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.

5 § 79B21. ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
6 FUND.

7 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.--THE ACTIVE VOLUNTEER TUITION AND LOAN  
8 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FUND IS ESTABLISHED AS A NONLAPSING  
9 RESTRICTED RECEIPTS ACCOUNT IN THE STATE TREASURY IN ACCORDANCE  
10 WITH THE MONEY TRANSFERRED UNDER 3 PA.C.S. § 1113(A) (3)  
11 (RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN FUNDS).

12 (B) APPROPRIATION.--MONEY DEPOSITED OR TRANSFERRED INTO THE  
13 FUND, INCLUDING ANY ACCRUED INTEREST, IS APPROPRIATED TO THE  
14 AGENCY ON A CONTINUING BASIS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.

15 (C) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.--AN ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION MAY  
16 NOT PREVENT THE DEPOSIT OR TRANSFER OF MONEY INTO THE FUND.

17 (D) USE.--MONEY IN THE FUND MAY ONLY BE USED TO IMPLEMENT  
18 THE PROGRAM. MONEY IN THE FUND MAY NOT BE DIVERTED FOR ANY OTHER  
19 PURPOSE BY ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION.

20 § 79B22. REGULATIONS.

21 THE AGENCY SHALL PROMULGATE REGULATIONS AND ESTABLISH RULES  
22 OR GUIDELINES TO ADMINISTER THIS SUBCHAPTER.

23 SECTION 9. TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:  
24 § 8112.1. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RECRUITMENT, TRAINING AND RETENTION.

25 (A) UTILIZATION.--EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (D),  
26 MONEY TRANSFERRED UNDER 3 PA.C.S. § 1113(A) (4) (RELATING TO  
27 DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN FUNDS) SHALL BE UTILIZED BY THE  
28 DEPARTMENT'S BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO:

29 (1) ISSUE SCHOLARSHIPS TO EMS PROVIDERS WHO COMPLETE EMS  
30 TRAINING PROVIDED BY AN APPROVED ENTITY UNDER SECTION 8105(B)

1 (6) (RELATING TO DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT) .

2 (2) REIMBURSE EMS AGENCIES FOR RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION  
3 COSTS, WHICH ARE TO BE DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S BUREAU  
4 OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

5 (3) MAKE AVAILABLE A PILOT PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL  
6 STUDENTS WITH INSTRUCTION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN  
7 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THIS COMMONWEALTH AND  
8 SCHOOL ENTITIES OR NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS, OR BOTH, TO INCREASE  
9 THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS CAPABLE OF BECOMING EMS PROVIDERS.  
10 THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
11 SECTION 7 OF THE ACT OF OCTOBER 24, 2012 (P.L.1209, NO.151),  
12 KNOWN AS THE CHILD LABOR ACT. THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

13 (I) THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE  
14 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL ACCEPT PROPOSALS FROM  
15 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THIS COMMONWEALTH FOR  
16 THE PILOT PROGRAM. FROM THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED, THE  
17 BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
18 HEALTH SHALL SELECT THREE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
19 EDUCATION TO OFFER A PILOT PROGRAM. THE BUREAU EMERGENCY  
20 MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TO THE  
21 GREATEST EXTENT PRACTICABLE, SHALL SELECT ONE INSTITUTION  
22 OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM EACH EASTERN, CENTRAL AND  
23 WESTERN REGION OF THIS COMMONWEALTH. NOTHING IN THIS  
24 PARAGRAPH SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT AN INSTITUTION  
25 OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM INCORPORATING FIRE INSTRUCTION  
26 INTO THE PILOT PROGRAM.

27 (II) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SELECTED BY  
28 THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE  
29 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) SHALL OPERATE  
30 THE PILOT PROGRAM BY ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A

1 SCHOOL ENTITY OR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL, OR BOTH, FOR THE  
2 PROVISION OF INSTRUCTION TO STUDENTS WHO ARE IN AT LEAST  
3 THE NINTH GRADE.

4 (III) THE EMS TRAINING FUND IS ESTABLISHED IN THE  
5 STATE TREASURY. THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
6 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH MAY ACCEPT MONETARY DONATIONS  
7 AND OTHER MONEY FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE EMS TRAINING FUND  
8 FROM A PERSON, BUSINESS, FOUNDATION, TAX-EXEMPT  
9 ORGANIZATION UNDER SECTION 501(C) (3) OF THE INTERNAL  
10 REVENUE CODE OF 1986 (PUBLIC LAW 99-514, 26 U.S.C. §  
11 501(C) (3)) OR GOVERNMENT ENTITY ON BEHALF OF THE  
12 COMMONWEALTH.

13 (IV) THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE  
14 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL DISBURSE NO LESS THAN \$50,000  
15 FROM THE EMS TRAINING FUND TO EACH INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
16 EDUCATION OPERATING THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR EACH YEAR OF  
17 THE PILOT PROGRAM. AFTER THE FOURTH YEAR OF OPERATION OF  
18 THE PILOT PROGRAM, THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
19 SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH MAY NOT DISBURSE  
20 MONEY FROM THE EMS TRAINING FUND.

21 (V) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER ANY MONEY  
22 APPROPRIATED, TRANSFERRED OR DONATED FOR THE PILOT  
23 PROGRAM INTO THE EMS TRAINING FUND, AND INTEREST EARNED  
24 ON THE MONEY IN THE EMS TRAINING FUND SHALL REMAIN IN THE  
25 EMS TRAINING FUND.

26 (B) APPLICATION.--AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION  
27 FOR A SCHOLARSHIP TO THE DEPARTMENT ON A FORM APPROVED BY THE  
28 DEPARTMENT.

29 (C) FORM.--THE SCHOLARSHIPS SHALL BE IN THE FORM OF:

30 (1) REIMBURSEMENT TO EMS PROVIDERS WHO OBTAIN



1 CERTIFICATION UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF EMS TRAINING BY  
2 AN APPROVED PROVIDER.

3 (2) REIMBURSEMENT TO AN EMS AGENCY FOR RECRUITMENT AND  
4 RETENTION COSTS, WHICH ARE TO BE DETERMINED BY THE  
5 DEPARTMENT'S BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

6 (D) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.--NO MORE THAN \$50,000 OF THE MONEY  
7 TRANSFERRED UNDER 3 PA.C.S. § 1113(A) (4) MAY BE USED BY THE  
8 BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

9 (E) ANNUAL REPORTS.--

10 (1) THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE  
11 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE  
12 SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) (1) AND THE PILOT PROGRAM  
13 UNDER SUBSECTION (A) (3). THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE  
14 FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

15 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS  
16 RECEIVED.

17 (II) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS  
18 APPROVED AND THE AMOUNTS FUNDED FOR EACH RECIPIENT.

19 (III) AN ANALYSIS OF THE CLASSES TAKEN AND THE  
20 LEVELS OF EDUCATION OBTAINED THROUGH THE SCHOLARSHIPS.

21 (IV) THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE  
22 PILOT PROGRAM.

23 (V) THE APPLICATIONS APPROVED FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM.

24 (VI) THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SERVED BY  
25 THE PILOT PROGRAM.

26 (2) THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE  
27 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL SUBMIT THE ANNUAL REPORT UNDER  
28 PARAGRAPH (1) NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 1, 2023, AND BY OCTOBER 1  
29 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

30 (I) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS

1           AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE  
2           SENATE.

3           (II) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS  
4           AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE  
5           OF REPRESENTATIVES.

6           (3) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH SHALL POST THE ANNUAL REPORT  
7           UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) ON THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE  
8           INTERNET WEBSITE.

9           SECTION 10. THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT AS FOLLOWS:

10           (1) THE AMENDMENT OF 35 PA.C.S. §§ 7813(B)(3) AND  
11           7823(B)(3) SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN 60 DAYS.

12           (2) THE REMAINDER OF THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT  
13           IMMEDIATELY.