

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1972 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, GUENST, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, PENNYCUICK, C. WILLIAMS, POLINCHOCK, OBERLANDER, SCHLEGEL CULVER, T. DAVIS, FLOOD, LEWIS DELROSSO, SHUSTERMAN, HOWARD, GILLEN, M. MACKENZIE AND WELBY, OCTOBER 13, 2021

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 12, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in State Veterans' Commission and
3 Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans' Affairs, further
4 providing for definitions and providing for veterans' homes.

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

7 Section 1. Section 1701 of Title 51 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 1701. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
11 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Commission." The State Veterans' Commission established by
14 this chapter.

15 ~~"Community based palliative care." Nonhospital specialized~~ <--
16 ~~medical care for people living with a serious illness provided~~
17 ~~through clinics, nursing and other assisted care facilities and~~

1 ~~in private homes which focuses on providing patients with relief~~  
2 ~~from the symptoms and stress of the illness to improve quality~~  
3 ~~of life for both the patient and the family.~~

4 "LONG-TERM CARE." HEALTH CARE SERVICES, INCLUDING SKILLED <--  
5 NURSING CARE, MEMORY CARE, NURSING CARE, ADULT DAY CARE,  
6 PERSONAL CARE, INDEPENDENT LIVING, RESPITE CARE, PALLIATIVE  
7 CARE, HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE CARE AND TELEHEALTH SERVICES.

8 Section 2. Chapter 17 of Title 51 is amended by adding a  
9 subchapter to read:

10 SUBCHAPTER E

11 VETERANS' HOMES

12 Sec.

13 1741. Community based palliative LONG-TERM care program. <--

14 § 1741. Community based palliative LONG-TERM care program. <--

15 (a) Establishment.--The Veterans' Affairs Community Based <--  
16 Palliative LONG-TERM Care Program is established within the <--  
17 department.

18 (b) Authorization.--The department is authorized to  
19 administer community based palliative LONG-TERM care services OR <--  
20 PROGRAMS in a veterans' home or with a partner in a related  
21 health care facility licensed by the Department of Health for  
22 the provision of community based palliative LONG-TERM care <--  
23 services. THE FOLLOWING APPLY: <--

24 (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROVIDE OTHER LONG-TERM CARE  
25 SERVICES TO VETERANS ON BOTH AN INPATIENT OR OUTPATIENT BASIS  
26 IN STATE VETERANS' HOMES OR IN COMMUNITY-BASED SETTINGS THAT  
27 PROVIDE LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES.

28 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A FEE SCHEDULE FOR  
29 LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER.  
30 FEES SHALL BE BASED ON THE LEVEL AND TYPE OF SERVICE NEEDED

1 FOR EACH VETERAN.

2 (3) LONG-TERM CARE PROGRAMS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN  
3 ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW AND THE LAWS OF THIS  
4 COMMONWEALTH.

5 (c) Funding.--The department may utilize funding  
6 appropriated by the General Assembly for the purposes provided  
7 for under this ~~section~~. SUBCHAPTER. <--

8 (D) RULES AND REGULATIONS.--THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE  
9 RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE PROVISIONS OF  
10 THIS SECTION.

11 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.