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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2407 Session of  
2024

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INTRODUCED BY SOLOMON, SAPPEY, GUENST, BOROWSKI, PIELLI, SCOTT,  
CONKLIN, HILL-EVANS, McNEILL, SANCHEZ, PROBST, VENKAT, BOYD,  
POWELL, MADSEN, DONAHUE AND O'MARA, JUNE 11, 2024

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, JUNE 11, 2024

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions relating to  
3 emergency management services, further providing for  
4 definitions; in Commonwealth services, further providing for  
5 definitions and for State Fire Commissioner; in grants to  
6 fire companies and emergency medical services companies,  
7 further providing for definitions, for publication and  
8 notice, for award of grants, for consolidation incentive, for  
9 publication and notice and for award of grants, repealing  
10 provisions relating to COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and  
11 Emergency Medical Services Grant Program and to Emergency  
12 Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program, providing  
13 for Supplemental Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services  
14 Grant Program, further providing for expiration of authority,  
15 repealing provisions relating to expiration of authority  
16 relating to COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency  
17 Medical Services Grant Program and to expiration of authority  
18 relating to Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery  
19 Grant Program and further providing for special provisions  
20 and for annual reports; and, in emergency medical services  
21 system, further providing for definitions.

22 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
23 hereby enacts as follows:

24 Section 1. Sections 7102 and 7382 of Title 35 of the  
25 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended by adding  
26 definitions to read:

1 § 7102. Definitions.

2 The following words and phrases when used in this part shall  
3 have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the  
4 meanings given to them in this section:

5 \* \* \*

6 "Fire Department Identification Number" or "FDID number." A  
7 unique, five-character identifier assigned by the commissioner  
8 to identify an individual fire company, volunteer rescue  
9 company, hazardous materials team or specialty team within this  
10 Commonwealth.

11 \* \* \*

12 § 7382. Definitions.

13 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter  
14 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
15 context clearly indicates otherwise:

16 \* \* \*

17 "Fire Department Identification Number" or "FDID Number." A  
18 unique five-character identifier assigned by the commissioner to  
19 identify an individual fire company or volunteer rescue company  
20 within this Commonwealth.

21 Section 2. Section 7383(a) of Title 35 is amended by adding  
22 a paragraph to read:

23 § 7383. State Fire Commissioner.

24 (a) State Fire Commissioner.--There shall be a State Fire  
25 Commissioner, who shall report to the Governor on all matters  
26 concerning fire services in this Commonwealth. The Office of the  
27 State Fire Commissioner shall be within the agency for  
28 administrative purposes only, and the commissioner shall not  
29 report to the director of the agency. The commissioner shall  
30 have the power and duty to:

1 \* \* \*

2 (12) Issue and revoke Fire Department Identification  
3 Numbers. The commissioner may establish guidelines for the  
4 issuance and revocation of FDID numbers. The commissioner  
5 shall transmit the guidelines to the Legislative Reference  
6 Bureau for publication in the next available issue of the  
7 Pennsylvania Bulletin.

8 \* \* \*

9 Section 3. Sections 7802, 7812, 7813(a)(7), (a.2), (c)(2),  
10 (d) and (e) introductory paragraph and (2)(i), 7814, 7821, 7822  
11 and 7823(a)(1) and (7), (b)(1) and (c)(2) of Title 35 are  
12 amended to read:

13 § 7802. Definitions.

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

17 "Advanced life support [services]." The term shall have the  
18 meaning given to it in Chapter 81 (relating to emergency medical  
19 services system).

20 "Advanced life support squad." The term shall have the  
21 meaning given to it in Chapter 81.

22 "Agency." The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

23 "Airport fire company." A fire company that does all of the  
24 following:

25 (1) Is associated with an airport.

26 (2) Has a mutual aid agreement with a neighboring  
27 municipality.

28 (3) Has responded to at least 15 fire or rescue  
29 emergency calls annually to neighboring fire companies as  
30 provided in documentation requested by the State Fire

1 Commissioner.

2 "Basic life support [services]." The term shall have the  
3 meaning given to it in Chapter 81 [(relating to emergency  
4 medical services system)].

5 "Basic life support squad." The term shall have the meaning  
6 given to it in Chapter 81.

7 "Career emergency medical services company." As follows:

8 (1) A for-profit chartered emergency medical service  
9 corporation, association or organization which meets all of  
10 the following:

11 (i) Is located in this Commonwealth.

12 (ii) Is licensed by the Department of Health.

13 (iii) Is not associated or affiliated with a  
14 hospital, unless recognized in accordance with section  
15 7823(b.1) (relating to award of grants).

16 (iv) Is regularly engaged in the provision of  
17 emergency medical services, including basic life support  
18 or advanced life support [services] and advanced life  
19 support squads as defined in 28 Pa. Code § 1027.1  
20 (relating to general provisions).

21 (2) The term shall not include a corporation,  
22 association or organization that is primarily engaged in the  
23 [operation of invalid coaches which are intended for the]  
24 routine transport of individuals who are convalescent or  
25 nonambulatory and who do not ordinarily require emergency  
26 medical treatment while in transit.

27 "Combined fire company." A volunteer fire company located in  
28 this Commonwealth with at least one paid employee in addition to  
29 a fire chief.

30 "Commissioner." The State Fire Commissioner.

1 "Emergency medical services company" or "EMS company." A  
2 career or volunteer emergency medical services company.

3 "Facility." A structure or portion thereof intended for the  
4 purpose of storage or protection of firefighting apparatus,  
5 ambulances and rescue vehicles and related equipment and gear.  
6 The term does not include meeting halls, social halls, social  
7 rooms, lounges or any other facility not directly related to  
8 firefighting or the furnishing of ambulance or rescue services.

9 "Fire company." A volunteer fire company, a municipal fire  
10 company or a combined [volunteer and municipal] fire company  
11 located in this Commonwealth. The term includes an airport fire  
12 company.

13 "Grant program." The Fire Company Grant Program established  
14 in Subchapter B (relating to fire company grant program) or the  
15 Emergency Medical Services Grant Program established in  
16 Subchapter C (relating to emergency medical services grant  
17 program).

18 "Hazardous materials team." A nonprofit team that is  
19 certified by the agency as a hazardous materials response team.

20 "Intermediate advanced life support squad." The term shall  
21 have the meaning given to it in Chapter 81.

22 ["Invalid coach." The term shall have the meaning given to  
23 it in Chapter 81 (relating to emergency medical services  
24 system).]

25 "Quick response service" or "QRS." The term shall have the  
26 meaning given to it in Chapter 81.

27 "Specialty team." A nonprofit team engaged in wilderness  
28 search and rescue, a nonprofit wildland firefighting team  
29 recognized by the Department of Conservation and Natural  
30 Resources or a nonprofit squad that performs any of the

1 following:

2 (1) Water rescue.

3 (2) Technical rope rescue.

4 (3) Confined space rescue.

5 (4) Trench rescue.

6 "Volunteer ambulance service." The term shall have the same  
7 meaning as "volunteer EMS company."

8 "Volunteer [EMS] emergency medical services company" or  
9 "volunteer EMS company." [Any] As follows:

10 (1) A nonprofit chartered emergency medical services  
11 corporation, association or organization which meets all of  
12 the following:

13 (i) Is located in this Commonwealth[, which is].

14 (ii) Is licensed by the Department of Health [and  
15 is].

16 (iii) Is not associated or affiliated with any  
17 hospital, unless recognized in accordance with section  
18 7823(b.1) (relating to award of grants) [, and which is].

19 (iv) Is regularly engaged in the provision of  
20 emergency medical services, including basic life support  
21 or advanced life support [services] and advanced life  
22 support squads as defined in 28 Pa. Code § 1027.1  
23 (relating to general provisions).

24 (2) The term shall not include any corporation,  
25 association or organization that is primarily engaged in the  
26 [operation of invalid coaches which are intended for the]  
27 routine transport of persons who are convalescent or  
28 otherwise nonambulatory and do not ordinarily require  
29 emergency medical treatment while in transit.

30 "Volunteer fire company." As follows:

1           (1) A nonprofit chartered corporation, association or  
2 organization which meets all of the following:

3           (i) Is located in this Commonwealth [which  
4 provides].

5           (ii) Provides fire protection or rescue services and  
6 [which] may offer other voluntary emergency services  
7 within this Commonwealth. Voluntary emergency services  
8 provided by a volunteer fire company may include  
9 voluntary ambulance and voluntary rescue services.

10 "Volunteer rescue company." As follows:

11           (1) A nonprofit chartered corporation, association or  
12 organization which meets all of the following:

13           (i) Is located in this Commonwealth [that provides].

14           (ii) Provides rescue services as part of the  
15 response to fires or vehicle accidents within this  
16 Commonwealth.

17 § 7812. Publication and notice.

18 The commissioner shall publish notice of the grant program  
19 availability through the Legislative Reference Bureau for  
20 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin by August 8 for each  
21 fiscal year. The commissioner shall post a notice of the grant  
22 program and application for the grant program on the Office of  
23 the State Fire Commissioner's publicly accessible Internet  
24 website. To the greatest extent possible, the commissioner shall  
25 utilize a designated Commonwealth electronic application for the  
26 grant program.

27 § 7813. Award of grants.

28 (a) Authorization.--The commissioner is authorized to make a  
29 grant award to each eligible fire company for the following:

30 \* \* \*

1 [(7) Revenue loss for grants issued in 2021 and 2022.]

2 \* \* \*

3 (a.2) Additional grants.--[Each fire company with not more  
4 than 20 members who are certified by the National Board on Fire  
5 Service Professional Qualifications or by the International Fire  
6 Service Accreditation Congress and are verified by the  
7 Pennsylvania State Fire Academy at a minimum level of  
8 Firefighter 1 on or before July 1 of the year of the grant  
9 application shall be eligible to receive additional grants under  
10 a certification bonus point system as administered by the  
11 commissioner.] The commissioner, in consultation with the State  
12 Fire Advisory Board, may establish a bonus point system to award  
13 additional funds to fire companies. The commissioner shall  
14 submit the certification bonus point system to the Legislative  
15 Reference Bureau for publication in the next available issue of  
16 the Pennsylvania Bulletin concurrently with the notice required  
17 under section 7812 (relating to publication and notice.)

18 \* \* \*

19 (c) Time for filing application and department action.--

20 \* \* \*

21 (2) Fire companies seeking grants under this chapter  
22 shall submit completed applications to the commissioner and  
23 the municipalities where the fire companies are located. The  
24 application period shall remain open for 45 days each year.  
25 The agency shall act to approve or disapprove applications  
26 within 60 days of the application submission deadline each  
27 year. Applications which have not been approved or  
28 disapproved by the commissioner within 60 days after the  
29 close of the application period each year shall be deemed  
30 approved. The following apply:



1           (i) The commissioner may extend the application  
2           period for up to 45 additional days for individual fire  
3           companies, upon request, if the fire company demonstrates  
4           hardship or undue burden that prevents the fire company  
5           from applying within the 45-day application period. An  
6           extension under this paragraph must be requested within  
7           30 days of the date of the end of the application period.

8           (ii) The commissioner shall have sole discretion to  
9           determine whether a fire company has demonstrated  
10          hardship or undue burden.

11          (d) Eligibility.--To receive grant funds under this chapter,  
12 a fire company must:

13           (1) Have actively responded to at least 15 fire or  
14 rescue emergencies during the previous calendar year.

15           (2) Be actively participating in the Pennsylvania Fire  
16 Information Reporting System under a signed agreement. The  
17 commissioner shall develop and publish guidelines specifying  
18 the criteria necessary to determine the level of  
19 participation in the Pennsylvania Fire Information Reporting  
20 System to remain eligible for grant funds.

21           (3) Have on record with the commissioner up-to-date  
22 point of contact information for the fire company or  
23 municipality. The contact information shall include a mailing  
24 address, a telephone number and an email address and must be  
25 submitted to the commissioner before July 31 of the grant  
26 year.

27           (4) Be registered with the appropriate Public Safety  
28 Answering Point as an active response agency.

29           (5) Have an FDID number that is associated solely with  
30 the fire company applying for the grant.

1           (6) Be designated by a municipality, by resolution or  
2 ordinance, as a provider of fire or rescue services within  
3 the municipality.

4           (7) Demonstrate that:

5           (i) the fire company or volunteer rescue squad  
6 receives a certification under 23 Pa.C.S. § 6344  
7 (relating to employees having contact with children;  
8 adoptive and foster parents) or 6344.2 (relating to  
9 volunteers having contact with children) for every member  
10 of the fire company or volunteer rescue squad; and

11           (ii) the fire company or volunteer rescue squad does  
12 not employ or have as a volunteer member any individual  
13 whose employment or participation could be denied under  
14 the provisions of 23 Pa.C.S. § 6344(c).

15       (e) Construction Savings Account.--A fire company may apply  
16 for a grant under subsection (a) for the purpose of constructing  
17 [a new] or renovating a facility. The grant shall be deposited  
18 into the Construction Savings Account, which is established  
19 within the State Treasury. Money in the Construction Savings  
20 Account may be withdrawn by application of the fire company. The  
21 Construction Savings Account shall be administered by the  
22 commissioner. The following shall apply:

23           \* \* \*

24           (2) For a fire company to withdraw money from the  
25 Construction Savings Account:

26           (i) The application shall contain the signatures of  
27 two [duly elected] officers of the fire company or  
28 municipality.

29           \* \* \*

30 § 7814. Consolidation incentive.

1 If two or more [volunteer] fire companies consolidate their  
2 use of facilities, equipment, firefighters and services, the  
3 consolidated entity may, upon notification of the commissioner,  
4 be eligible for a reduction of the interest rate payable on any  
5 outstanding principal balance owed, as of the date of  
6 consolidation, by any or all of the consolidating companies to  
7 the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Loan Fund for loans made  
8 under the act of July 15, 1976 (P.L.1036, No.208), known as the  
9 Volunteer Fire Company, Ambulance Service and Rescue Squad  
10 Assistance Act, or under Subchapter E of Chapter 73 (relating to  
11 Fire and Emergency Medical Services Loan Program). The reduction  
12 in the interest rate payable shall be from 2% to 1%. Upon  
13 receipt of such notification, the commissioner shall determine  
14 and verify that the consolidated entity is in fact a bona fide  
15 consolidated [volunteer] fire company. If the commissioner  
16 determines that the consolidated entity is a bona fide  
17 consolidated [volunteer] fire company, the commissioner shall  
18 reduce the interest rate payable on any outstanding principal  
19 balance owed to the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Loan  
20 Fund for loans made under the former Volunteer Fire Company,  
21 Ambulance Service and Rescue Squad Assistance Act, or under  
22 Subchapter E of Chapter 73, for which the consolidating  
23 companies or the consolidated entity may be individually or  
24 jointly responsible. The commissioner may promulgate such rules  
25 and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions  
26 of this section.

27 § 7821. Establishment.

28 The Emergency Medical Services Grant Program is established  
29 and shall be administered by the commissioner. Grants provided  
30 under this program shall be used to improve and enhance the

1 capabilities of EMS to provide ambulance, emergency medical,  
2 basic life support and advanced life support [services].

3 § 7822. Publication and notice.

4 The commissioner shall publish notice of the grant program  
5 availability through the Legislative Reference Bureau for  
6 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin by August 8 for each  
7 fiscal year. To the greatest extent possible, the commissioner  
8 shall utilize a designated Commonwealth electronic application  
9 for the grant program.

10 § 7823. Award of grants.

11 (a) Authorization.--The commissioner is authorized to make a  
12 grant award to each eligible EMS company for the following:

13 (1) Construction and renovation of the EMS company's  
14 facilities and purchase or repair of fixtures, furnishings,  
15 office equipment and support services necessary to maintain  
16 or improve the capability of the services to provide  
17 ambulance, emergency medical, basic life support and advanced  
18 life support [services].

19 \* \* \*

20 [(7) Revenue loss for grants issued in 2021 and 2022.]

21 (b) Limits.--

22 (1) Grants shall be not less than \$2,500 and not more  
23 than [~~\$15,000~~] \$20,000 per EMS company.

24 \* \* \*

25 (c) Time for filing application and department action.--

26 \* \* \*

27 (2) EMS companies seeking grants under this chapter  
28 shall submit completed applications to the commissioner. The  
29 application period shall remain open for 45 days each year.  
30 The commissioner shall act to approve or disapprove

1 applications within 60 days of the application submission  
2 deadline each year. Applications which have not been approved  
3 or disapproved by the commissioner within 60 days after the  
4 close of the application period each year shall be deemed  
5 approved. The following apply:

6 (i) The commissioner may extend the application  
7 period for up to 45 additional days for individual EMS  
8 companies, upon request, if the EMS company demonstrates  
9 hardship or undue burden that prevents the EMS company  
10 from applying within the 45-day application period. An  
11 extension under this paragraph must be requested within  
12 30 days of the date of the end of the application period.

13 (ii) The commissioner shall have sole discretion to  
14 determine whether a fire company has demonstrated  
15 hardship or undue burden.

16 Section 4. Subchapter C.1 of Chapter 78, section 7832.2 and  
17 Subchapter E of Chapter 78 of Title 35 are repealed:

18 [SUBCHAPTER C.1

19 COVID-19 CRISIS FIRE COMPANY AND

20 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM

21 Sec.

22 7827.1. Establishment.

23 7827.2. Publication and notice.

24 7827.3. Award of grants.

25 § 7827.1. Establishment.

26 The COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical  
27 Services Grant Program is established and shall be administered  
28 by the agency. Grants provided under the program shall be used  
29 by fire companies and EMS companies to provide services during  
30 the novel coronavirus pandemic as identified in the proclamation

1 of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,  
2 published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of  
3 the state of disaster emergency.

4 § 7827.2. Publication and notice.

5 The agency shall transmit notice of the COVID-19 Crisis Fire  
6 Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program  
7 availability to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication  
8 in the Pennsylvania Bulletin within 30 days of the effective  
9 date of this section.

10 § 7827.3. Award of grants.

11 (a) Authorization.--The agency shall make a grant award from  
12 the COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services  
13 Grant Program to:

14 (1) Each eligible fire company that received a grant  
15 award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7813 (relating  
16 to award of grants) for the purposes under section 7813(a)  
17 and (a.1).

18 (2) A fire company that did not apply for or receive a  
19 grant award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7813 and  
20 that applies for a grant under this subchapter for the  
21 purposes under section 7813(a) and (a.1).

22 (3) Each eligible EMS company that received a grant  
23 award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7823 (relating  
24 to award of grants) for the purposes under section 7823(a).

25 (4) An EMS company that did not apply for or receive a  
26 grant award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7823 and  
27 that applies for a grant under this subchapter for the  
28 purposes under section 7823(a).

29 (b) Amount of award.--The amount of the grant award under  
30 this subchapter shall be the same amount of the grant award for

1 fiscal year 2019-2020 to:

2 (1) An eligible fire company under section 7813.

3 (2) An eligible EMS company under section 7823.

4 (c) Application not required.--

5 (1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2), no  
6 additional application shall be required for a grant under  
7 this subchapter.

8 (2) A fire company under subsection (a) (2) and an EMS  
9 company under subsection (a) (4) must file an application for  
10 a grant under this subchapter.

11 § 7832.2. COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical  
12 Services Grant Program.

13 The following shall apply to any appropriation from money  
14 received by the Commonwealth under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief,  
15 and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136, 134 Stat. 281)  
16 for purposes of making grants under Subchapter C.1 (relating to  
17 COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services  
18 Grant Program):

19 (1) The sum of \$44,000,000 of the amount appropriated  
20 shall be expended for the purpose of making grants to  
21 eligible fire companies.

22 (2) The sum of \$6,000,000 of the amount appropriated  
23 shall be expended for the purpose of making grants to  
24 eligible EMS companies.

25 (3) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), the agency  
26 may use up to \$200,000 of unencumbered funds from the amount  
27 appropriated for administrative costs for the implementation  
28 of Subchapter C.1.

29 SUBCHAPTER E

30 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

1 COVID-19 RECOVERY GRANT PROGRAM

2 Sec.

3 7841. Establishment.

4 7842. Award of grants.

5 7843. Funding and costs.

6 7844. Report.

7 § 7841. Establishment.

8 The Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant  
9 Program is established and shall be administered by the Office  
10 of the State Fire Commissioner in consultation with the  
11 Department of Health. Grants provided under the Emergency  
12 Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program shall be used  
13 by EMS companies to provide services in response to the novel  
14 coronavirus pandemic.

15 § 7842. Award of grants.

16 (a) Application not required.--No application shall be  
17 required to receive a grant under this subchapter.

18 (b) Notification.--The Office of the State Fire Commissioner  
19 shall notify in writing each EMS company, as defined under  
20 section 7802 (relating to definitions), of the availability of  
21 grants from the Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery  
22 Grant Program for the purposes under section 7823(a) (relating  
23 to award of grants).

24 (c) Certification.--The Office of the State Fire  
25 Commissioner shall include with the written notification under  
26 subsection (b) a form for each eligible EMS company to certify  
27 that a grant received under this subchapter shall be used for  
28 the purposes under section 7823(a) and provide a deadline by  
29 which an EMS company must return the certification form.

30 (d) Amount.--Grants shall be awarded under this subchapter



1 in an amount equal to the total amount of funds appropriated  
2 under section 7843 (relating to funding and costs) less the  
3 amount used under section 7843(b) divided by the total number of  
4 EMS companies that returned the certification under subsection  
5 (c).

6 (e) Report.--No later than July 30, 2022, each EMS company  
7 receiving a grant award under this subchapter shall report to  
8 the Office of the State Fire Commissioner how it will use the  
9 grant money awarded under subsection (d).

10 § 7843. Funding and costs.

11 (a) Appropriation.--The sum of \$25,000,000 of Federal funds  
12 in the COVID-19 Response Restricted Account is appropriated to  
13 the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency for the Emergency  
14 Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program under this  
15 subchapter. The provisions of section 111-C(g) of the act of  
16 April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, shall  
17 not apply to the amount appropriated under this section.

18 (b) Administrative costs.--The Office of the State Fire  
19 Commissioner may use up to \$200,000 of unencumbered funds from  
20 the amount appropriated under subsection (a) for administrative  
21 costs for the implementation of this subchapter.

22 § 7844. Report.

23 (a) Contents.--The commissioner shall prepare a report on  
24 the Emergency Medical Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program.  
25 The report shall include all of the following information:

26 (1) The total number of EMS companies that were notified  
27 of the grant program.

28 (2) The total number of EMS companies that submitted a  
29 certification for the grant program.

30 (3) The total number of EMS companies that received a

1 grant.

2 (4) The total amount of the grant received by each EMS  
3 company.

4 (5) A summary of how each EMS company will use the grant  
5 money awarded under the program.

6 (b) Submission.--The commissioner shall submit the report by  
7 September 1, 2022, to all of the following:

8 (1) The chair and minority chair of the Veterans Affairs  
9 and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Senate.

10 (2) The chair and minority chair of the Veterans Affairs  
11 and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the House of  
12 Representatives.

13 (3) The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations  
14 Committee of the Senate.

15 (4) The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations  
16 Committee of the House of Representatives.

17 (c) Posting.--The commissioner shall post the annual report  
18 on the Office of the State Fire Commissioner's publicly  
19 accessible Internet website.]

20 Section 5. Chapter 78 of Title 35 is amended by adding a  
21 subchapter to read:

22 SUBCHAPTER F

23 SUPPLEMENTAL FIRE COMPANY AND EMERGENCY

24 MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM

25 Sec.

26 7851. Establishment.

27 7852. Award of grant funds.

28 7853. Quick response services and EMS squad grants.

29 7854. Supplemental fire company and emergency medical services  
30 grants.

1 7855. Volunteer rescue company, hazardous materials team and  
2 specialty team competitive grants.

3 7856. Fire service modernization grants.

4 7857. Miscellaneous provisions.

5 § 7851. Establishment.

6 The Supplemental Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services  
7 Grant Program is established and shall be administered by the  
8 Office of the State Fire Commissioner.

9 § 7852. Award of grant funds.

10 (a) Transfer.--In addition to sums transferred from the  
11 State Gaming Fund and under 3 Pa.C.S. § 1113 (relating to  
12 disposition of certain funds) the sum of \$30,000,000 shall be  
13 transferred annually from the Property Tax Relief Reserve Fund  
14 to the fire company and emergency medical services grant  
15 programs established under this chapter.

16 (b) Utilization.--Money transferred under subsection (a)  
17 shall be utilized by the commissioner as follows:

18 (1) 20% shall be awarded to recipients of the fire  
19 company and emergency medical services grant programs  
20 established in Subchapters B and C who:

21 (i) Have an emergency medical services license  
22 certificate issued by the Department of Health.

23 (ii) Are currently registered with the Department of  
24 Health.

25 (iii) Are licensed at the quick response service,  
26 basic life support squad, advanced life support squad or  
27 intermediate advanced life support squad level of  
28 service.

29 (2) 50% shall be used to increase the base amount of  
30 grants established in Subchapters B and C.

1           (3) 4% shall be used to establish a competitive grant  
2 for volunteer rescue companies, hazardous materials teams and  
3 specialty teams.

4           (4) 26% shall be used to establish a competitive grant  
5 program for counties or county-sponsored applicants to fund  
6 fire service regionalization, standards of cover or  
7 recruitment and retention.

8 § 7853. Quick response services and EMS squad grants.

9           (a) Awards.--The commissioner shall use funds transferred  
10 under section 7852(b)(1) (relating to award of grant funds) in a  
11 uniform amount of additional grant awards to each eligible  
12 recipient in an amount not to exceed \$7,500. If money  
13 appropriated for this purpose is not sufficient to award the  
14 maximum allowable amount to each eligible recipient, the  
15 commissioner shall award the highest possible amount based on  
16 availability of money to each eligible recipient.

17           (b) Accumulation.--The amount determined in subsection (a)  
18 shall be added to the base amount of grants awarded under  
19 sections 7813 (relating to award of grants) and 7823 (relating  
20 to award of grants). The amount determined in subsection (a)  
21 shall not count when calculating the maximum award amounts  
22 established in sections 7813(b)(1) and 7823(b)(1).

23           (c) Consolidation.--Money awarded under this section shall  
24 not be subject to the provisions of section 7814 (relating to  
25 consolidation incentive) or 7824 (relating to consolidation  
26 incentive).

27           (d) Guidelines.--The commissioner shall develop guidelines  
28 for this program and shall transmit the guidelines to the  
29 Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the next  
30 available issue of the Pennsylvania Bulletin concurrently with

1 the notice required under section 7812 (relating to publication  
2 and notice).

3 § 7854. Supplemental fire company and emergency medical  
4 services grants.

5 (a) Awards.--The commissioner shall use money transferred  
6 under section 7852(b) (2) (relating to award of grant funds) to  
7 uniformly increase the base amount of supplemental fire company  
8 and emergency medical services grants established in sections  
9 7813 (relating to award of grants) and 7823 (relating to award  
10 of grants).

11 (b) Calculation.--Each year the commissioner shall determine  
12 the amount of the increase to the base amount by dividing the  
13 total of funds transferred under section 7852(b) (2) by the total  
14 number of complete grant applications made to the grants  
15 established in sections 7813 and 7823.

16 (c) Accumulation.--The amount determined in subsection (b)  
17 shall be added to the base amount of grants awarded pursuant to  
18 sections 7813 and 7823. Such amounts will not count when  
19 calculating the maximum award amounts established in sections  
20 7813(b) (1) and 7823(b) (1).

21 (d) Consolidation.--Funds awarded under this section shall  
22 be subject to the provisions of sections 7814 (relating to  
23 consolidation incentive) and 7824 (relating to consolidation  
24 incentive).

25 § 7855. Volunteer rescue company, hazardous materials team and  
26 specialty team competitive grants.

27 (a) Awards.--The commissioner shall use money transferred  
28 under section 7852(b) (3) (relating to award of grant funds) to  
29 establish a grant program for volunteer rescue companies,  
30 hazardous materials teams and specialty teams.

1 (b) Eligibility.--An eligible grant recipient under this  
2 section shall meet all of the following:

3 (1) Be assigned an FDID number.

4 (2) Report incidents in the fire incident reporting  
5 system.

6 (3) Have a letter of recommendation from the emergency  
7 management coordinator of the host county affirming that the  
8 team is a deployable resource.

9 (c) Guidelines.--The commissioner shall develop guidelines  
10 for this program, including for the issuance and revocation of  
11 FDID numbers for eligible applicants of this program, and shall  
12 transmit the guidelines to the Legislative Reference Bureau for  
13 publication in the next available issue of the Pennsylvania  
14 Bulletin concurrently with the notice required under section  
15 7812 (relating to publication and notice).

16 § 7856. Fire service modernization grants.

17 (a) Awards.--The commissioner shall use money transferred  
18 under section 7852(b)(4) (relating to award of grant funds) to  
19 establish a grant program to support county-based fire service  
20 modernization efforts. The grant program shall make grants  
21 available to counties or county-sponsored applicants.

22 (b) Limits.--The commissioner may award up to one grant in  
23 each county.

24 (c) Uses.--Grants awarded under this section shall be used  
25 to fund fire service modernization efforts, including  
26 regionalization, establishing standards of cover for fire  
27 service or recruitment and retention efforts.

28 (d) Guidelines.--The commissioner shall develop guidelines  
29 for this program and shall transmit the guidelines to the  
30 Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the next

1 available issue of the Pennsylvania Bulletin concurrently with  
2 the notice required under section 7812 (relating to publication  
3 and notice).

4 § 7857. Miscellaneous provisions.

5 (a) Administrative costs.--The commissioner may retain up to  
6 2% of funds appropriated under this subchapter for  
7 administrative costs.

8 (b) Unspent funds.--Annually appropriated funds not spent  
9 each year shall be transferred as follows:

10 (1) 50% of the amount shall be used for the purpose of  
11 making grants under section 7385.1 (relating to capital  
12 grants for municipal fire departments).

13 (2) 50% of the amount shall be used for the purpose of  
14 making grants under section 7385.2 (relating to capital  
15 grants for emergency service training centers).

16 Section 6. Section 7891 of Title 35 is amended to read:

17 § 7891. Expiration of authority.

18 The authority of the commissioner to award grants under  
19 Subchapters B (relating to fire company grant program) and C  
20 (relating to emergency medical services grant program) shall  
21 expire [~~June 30, 2024~~] June 30, 2029.

22 Section 7. Sections 7892 and 7893 of Title 35 are repealed:

23 [~~§ 7892. Expiration of authority relating to COVID-19 Crisis~~  
24 ~~Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant~~  
25 ~~Program.~~

26 ~~The authority of the agency to award grants under Subchapter~~  
27 ~~C.1 (relating to COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency~~  
28 ~~Medical Services Grant Program) shall expire six months after~~  
29 ~~the effective date of this section.~~

30 ~~§ 7893. Expiration of authority relating to Emergency Medical~~

1 Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program.

2 The authority of the Office of the State Fire Commissioner to  
3 award grants under Subchapter E (relating to Emergency Medical  
4 Services COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program) shall expire June 30,  
5 2022.]

6 Section 8. Sections 7894(a) and 7895(a)(5) of Title 35 are  
7 amended to read:

8 § 7894. Special provisions.

9 (a) Claim.--An applicant for a grant under this chapter who  
10 failed to return a signed agreement for the preceding year shall  
11 not be permitted to apply for a grant in the current year unless  
12 the applicant has provided the commissioner with a reasonable  
13 written explanation as to why it did not claim its grant prior  
14 to the beginning of the application period.

15 \* \* \*

16 § 7895. Annual reports.

17 (a) Contents.--The commissioner shall prepare an annual  
18 report on the Fire Company Grant Program and Emergency Medical  
19 Services Grant Program. The annual report shall include all of  
20 the following information:

21 \* \* \*

22 [(5) A list of the fire companies as delineated by  
23 county that received additional grants under section  
24 7813(a.2) (relating to award of grants).]

25 \* \* \*

26 Section 9. The definitions of "ALS" and "BLS" in section  
27 8103 of Title 35 are amended and the section is amended by  
28 adding definitions to read:

29 § 8103. Definitions.

30 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter



1 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
2 context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 \* \* \*

4 "Advanced life support" or "ALS." Advanced prehospital and  
5 interhospital emergency medical care of serious illness or  
6 injury by appropriately trained health professionals and by  
7 certified EMT paramedics.

8 "Advanced life support squad." An EMS agency that is  
9 licensed under section 8129 (relating to emergency medical  
10 services agencies) at the advanced life support level of  
11 service.

12 \* \* \*

13 ["ALS." Advanced life support.]

14 \* \* \*

15 "Basic life support" or "BLS." Prehospital or interhospital  
16 emergency medical care and management of illness or injury  
17 performed by specially trained and certified or licensed  
18 personnel.

19 "Basic life support squad." An EMS agency that is licensed  
20 under section 8129 at the basic life support squad level of  
21 service.

22 \* \* \*

23 ["BLS." Basic life support.]

24 \* \* \*

25 "Intermediate advanced life support squad." An EMS agency  
26 that is licensed under section 8129 at the intermediate advanced  
27 life support squad level of service.

28 \* \* \*

29 Section 10. This act shall take effect June 30, 2024, or  
30 immediately, whichever is later.