THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL No. 2469 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY BOROWSKI, KHAN, PROKOPIAK, KINSEY, OTTEN, SCHLOSSBERG, GIRAL, WAXMAN, MUNROE, MCNEILL, WEBSTER, NEILSON, SIEGEL, SANCHEZ, KIM, CURRY, PROBST, PARKER, O'MARA, CERRATO AND DALEY, JUNE 28, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, JUNE 28, 2024

AN ACT

1 2 3 4 5	Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in emergency responder mental wellness and stress management, further providing for confidential communications involving emergency responders and providing for mental health evaluations for 911 dispatchers.
6	The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7	hereby enacts as follows:
8	Section 1. Section 75A10 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania
9	Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:
10	§ 75A10. Confidential communications involving emergency
11	responders.
12	(a) DisclosureExcept as provided under subsection (b), a
13	trained peer support provider or coparticipant present during
14	peer support services, a health care provider or a helpline
15	operator may not disclose any information regarding an emergency
16	responder without the consent of the emergency responder.
17	(b) ExceptionsThe privilege established under subsection
18	(a) shall not apply if any of the following apply:

1 The trained peer support provider, health care_ (1)2 provider or helpline operator reasonably believes a clear and 3 present danger exists to the emergency responder or to other individuals. 4 5 The emergency responder has given express consent to (2) disclose information. 6 7 The emergency responder is deceased and the (3) 8 surviving spouse or the executor or administrator of the 9 estate of the deceased emergency responder has given express 10 consent.

Section 2. Title 35 is amended by adding a section to read: 75A12. Mental health evaluations for 911 dispatchers.

13 (a) Evaluations.--Without cost to the 911 dispatcher, an_

14 employer shall provide a 911 dispatcher with a mental health

15 <u>evaluation for post-traumatic stress disorder by a licensed</u>

16 <u>health care provider:</u>

17 (1) upon request of the 911 dispatcher; or

18 (2) upon recommendation of the direct supervisor of the

19 <u>911 dispatcher</u>.

20 (b) Treatment.--If a licensed health care provider_

21 determines during the mental health evaluation under subsection

22 (a) that the 911 dispatcher has symptoms of post-traumatic

23 stress disorder, the 911 dispatcher shall be provided with

24 treatment under a licensed health care provider's care until the

25 licensed health care provider determines in writing that the 911

26 <u>dispatcher is able to resume full duties.</u>

27 (c) Administrative duty.--A 911 dispatcher shall be assigned

28 to administrative duty if the 911 dispatcher is experiencing

29 symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder as determined by a

30 licensed health care provider under subsection (a) and whom the

- 1 licensed health care provider has not yet determined is able to
- 2 <u>resume full duties under subsection (b).</u>
- 3 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.