
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 998 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY GROVE, MILLARD, B. MILLER, MOUL, ZIMMERMAN, WARD,
COX, RYAN AND GILLEN, MARCH 28, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, MARCH 28, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 8, 1959 (P.L.1718, No.632),
2 entitled, as amended, "An act providing for the payment of
3 the salary, medical and hospital expenses of employes of
4 State penal and correctional institutions, State mental
5 hospitals, Youth Development Centers, County Boards of
6 Assistance, and under certain conditions other employes of
7 the Department of Public Welfare, who are injured in the
8 performance of their duties; and providing benefit to their
9 widows and dependents in certain cases," providing for a
10 limitation on salary payments to employees.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 1 of the act of December 8, 1959
14 (P.L.1718, No.632), entitled, as amended, "An act providing for
15 the payment of the salary, medical and hospital expenses of
16 employes of State penal and correctional institutions, State
17 mental hospitals, Youth Development Centers, County Boards of
18 Assistance, and under certain conditions other employes of the
19 Department of Public Welfare, who are injured in the performance
20 of their duties; and providing benefit to their widows and
21 dependents in certain cases," is amended to read:

22 Section 1. Any employe of a State penal or correctional

1 institution under the [Bureau of Correction of the Department of
2 Justice] Department of Corrections and any employe of a State
3 mental hospital or Youth Development Center under the Department
4 of [Public Welfare] Human Services, who is injured during the
5 course of his employment by an act of any inmate or any person
6 confined in such institution or by any person who has been
7 committed to such institution by any court of the Commonwealth
8 of Pennsylvania or by any provision of the "Mental Health Act"
9 and any employe of County Boards of Assistance injured by act of
10 an applicant for or recipient of public assistance and any
11 employe of the Department of [Public Welfare] Human Services who
12 has been assigned to or who has volunteered to join the fire
13 fighting force of any institution of the Department of [Public
14 Welfare] Human Services injured while carrying out fire fighting
15 duties, shall be paid, by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, his
16 full salary[,] for no more than three years from the date of the
17 injury, or until the disability arising therefrom no longer
18 prevents his return as an employe of such department, board or
19 institution at a salary equal to that earned by him at the time
20 of his injury, whichever is sooner.

21 All medical and hospital expenses incurred in connection with
22 any such injury shall be paid by the Commonwealth of
23 Pennsylvania until the disability arising from such injury no
24 longer prevents his return as an employe of such department,
25 board or institution at a salary equal to that earned by him at
26 the time of his injury.

27 During the time salary for such disability shall be paid by
28 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania any workmen's compensation
29 received or collected for such period shall be turned over to
30 the Commonwealth and paid into the General Fund, and if such

1 payment shall not be so made, the amount so due the Commonwealth
2 shall be deducted from any salary then or thereafter becoming
3 due and owing.

4 The widow and minor dependents of any employe who dies within
5 one year as a result of such injuries shall be paid benefits
6 equal to fifty per cent of the full salary of the deceased
7 employe.

8 When a widow and minor dependents not in her custody are
9 entitled to payments, one-half of such payments shall be paid to
10 the widow and one-half to the dependents. In every case the
11 amount payable to minor dependents shall be divided equally
12 among them and be paid to the persons or institutions having
13 custody of them.

14 In the case of a widow or a widow with minor dependents in
15 her custody, such benefits shall terminate when such widow
16 remarries. In the case of minor dependents, except when in the
17 custody of a remarried widow, such benefits shall terminate when
18 all of the minor dependents become eighteen years of age.

19 Neither a widow nor minor dependents shall receive any benefits
20 under this act while receiving benefits under the Federal Social
21 Security Law. The benefits provided by this act shall be reduced
22 by the amount of any workmen's compensation benefits received or
23 collected by any such widow or minor dependents because of the
24 same injury. Payments for the benefit of minor dependents shall
25 be made to the person having legal custody of them.

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.