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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1122 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY PITTMAN, PHILLIPS-HILL, DiSANTO, KILLION, ARGALL,  
ARNOLD, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, LANGERHOLC, MENSCH, A. WILLIAMS,  
J. WARD, BREWSTER, MASTRIANO, MARTIN, K. WARD, SCHWANK, YAW,  
VOGEL, SCAVELLO, STEFANO, GORDNER AND COSTA, APRIL 17, 2020

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REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,  
APRIL 17, 2020

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in grants to fire companies and  
3 emergency medical services companies, providing for COVID-19  
4 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant  
5 Program.

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

8 Section 1. Chapter 78 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania  
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subchapter to read:

10 SUBCHAPTER C.1

11 COVID-19 CRISIS FIRE COMPANY AND

12 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM

13 Sec.

14 7823.1. Establishment.

15 7823.2. Publication and notice.

16 7823.3. Award of grants.

17 § 7823.1. Establishment.

18 The COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical

1 Services Grant Program is established and shall be administered  
2 by the agency. Grants provided under the program shall be used  
3 by fire companies and EMS companies to provide services during  
4 the novel coronavirus pandemic as identified in the proclamation  
5 of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,  
6 published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of  
7 the state of disaster emergency.

8 § 7823.2. Publication and notice.

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

14 § 7823.3. Award of grants.

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

18 (1) Each eligible fire company that received a grant  
19 award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7813 (relating  
20 to award of grants) for the purposes under section 7813(a)  
21 and (a.1)).

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

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

29 (4) An EMS company that did not apply for or receive a  
30 grant award in fiscal year 2019-2020 under section 7823 and

1 that applies for a grant under this subchapter for the  
2 purposes under section 7823(a).

3 (b) Amount of award.--The amount of the grant award under  
4 this subchapter shall be the same amount of the grant award for  
5 fiscal year 2019-2020 to:

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

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

8 (c) Application not required.--

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

12 (2) A fire company under subsection (a)(2) and an EMS  
13 company under subsection (a)(4) must file an application for  
14 a grant under this subchapter.

15 Section 2. Title 35 is amended by adding sections to read:

16 § 7832.2. COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical  
17 Services Grant Program.

18 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the sum of  
19 \$30,000,000 shall be allocated from money received by the  
20 Commonwealth under the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and  
21 Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136) for purposes of  
22 making grants under Subchapter C.1 (relating to COVID-19 Crisis  
23 Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program). The  
24 following shall apply:

25 (1) The sum of \$27,000,000 of the amount allocated shall  
26 be expended for the purpose of making grants to eligible fire  
27 companies.

28 (2) The sum of \$3,000,000 of the amount allocated shall  
29 be expended for the purpose of making grants to eligible EMS  
30 companies.

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

5   § 7841.1. Expiration of authority relating to COVID-19 Crisis  
6           Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant  
7           Program.

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

12           Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.