

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 572 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY ADOLPH, KILLION, MICOZZIE, BARRAR, BAKER, BEAR, BELFANTI, BEYER, BOYD, CARROLL, CIVERA, COHEN, CONKLIN, CREIGHTON, DALEY, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, GEIST, GEORGE, GODSHALL, HENNESSEY, HESS, W. KELLER, KORTZ, KOTIK, MAJOR, MANN, MCGEEHAN, MILLARD, MILLER, MOUL, MURT, O'NEILL, PERRY, PHILLIPS, QUINN, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STEVENSON AND SWANGER, FEBRUARY 23, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, FEBRUARY 23, 2009

AN ACT

1 Authorizing the Governor to award a distinguished military
2 service medal; and making an appropriation.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Distinguished
7 Military Service Medal Act.

8 Section 2. Medal eligibility.

9 (a) Criteria.--The Governor may present in the name of the
10 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania a distinguished military service
11 medal of appropriate design and ribbon to be worn in lieu
12 thereof to:

13 (1) any resident of this Commonwealth who was a resident
14 of this Commonwealth at the time of entry into active

1 military service and:

2 (i) who, while serving in the Federal military or in
3 an organized militia on active duty in time of war or
4 emergency, shall have been distinguished by especially
5 meritorious service and who has been or may be cited in
6 orders for distinguished service by the Governor or by an
7 appropriate Federal authority; or

8 (ii) who shall have seen active military service in
9 the armed forces of the United States in a combat theater
10 of operations during time of war or emergency as attested
11 to by the awarding of an honorable discharge and DD 214
12 or WD 53 by the respective armed force;

13 (2) any deceased person who, on the date of induction
14 into the Federal military or organized militia service, was a
15 resident of this Commonwealth; and

16 (i) who, while serving in the Federal military
17 service or in the organized militia on active duty in
18 time of war or emergency, shall have been distinguished
19 by especially meritorious service and who has been or may
20 be cited in orders for distinguished service by the
21 Governor or an appropriate Federal authority; or

22 (ii) who shall have seen active military service in
23 the armed forces of the United States in a combat theater
24 of operations during time of war or emergency as attested
25 to by the awarding of an honorable discharge and DD 214
26 or WD 53 by the respective armed force; or

27 (3) any person who, on the date of induction into the
28 Federal military service or the organized militia was a
29 resident of this Commonwealth who, while serving in the
30 Federal military service or the organized militia on active

1 duty in time of war or emergency, shall have been officially
2 listed as a prisoner of war or missing in action by the
3 Department of Defense.

4 (b) Special presentation.--The service medal for a deceased
5 person or a person absent as a prisoner of war or missing in
6 action shall be issued to the parent, spouse, sibling or other
7 relative who submits all of the required forms and documentation
8 on behalf of that person.

9 Section 3. Regulations.

10 The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs shall develop
11 any necessary regulations needed for the implementation of this
12 act.

13 Section 4. Appropriation.

14 The sum of \$4,000,000, or as much thereof as may be
15 necessary, is hereby appropriated to the Department of Military
16 and Veterans Affairs in order to carry out the provisions of
17 this act.

18 Section 5. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect in 60 days.