

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 6

Session of  
2003

INTRODUCED BY BOYD, FLICK, TRUE, CREIGHTON, HERMAN, REED,  
YOUNGBLOOD, MELIO, KOTIK, CRUZ, HARHAI, HICKERNELL, WANSACZ,  
CRAHALLA, PAYNE, GILLESPIE, THOMAS, HORSEY AND REICHLEY,  
MARCH 12, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, MARCH 12, 2003

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 3, 1985 (P.L.164, No.45), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the prevention and reduction of premature  
3 death and disability in this Commonwealth; providing for  
4 assistance, coordination and support of the development and  
5 maintenance of a comprehensive emergency medical services  
6 system and for qualifications, eligibility and certification  
7 of emergency medical services personnel and licensing  
8 ambulance services; imposing powers and duties on the  
9 Department of Health; and making repeals," further providing  
10 for fines and fees; and providing funds for use by volunteer  
11 fire and rescue companies.

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

14 Section 1. Section 14 of the act of July 3, 1985 (P.L.164,  
15 No.45), known as the Emergency Medical Services Act, amended  
16 October 21, 1988 (P.L.1055, No.121) and October 5, 1994  
17 (P.L.557, No.82), is amended to read:

18 Section 14. Support of emergency medical services and volunteer  
19 fire and rescue departments.

20 (a) Fine.--A [\$10] \$30 fine shall be levied on all traffic  
21 violations exclusive of parking offenses. These fines shall be

1 in addition to other fines imposed at the discretion of the  
2 court.

3 (b) Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition fee.--A fee of  
4 [\$25] \$60 shall be imposed as costs upon persons admitted to  
5 programs for Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition for offenses  
6 enumerated in 75 Pa.C.S. § 3731 (relating to driving under  
7 influence of alcohol or controlled substance).

8 (c) Emergency Medical Services Volunteer Fire and Rescue  
9 Companies Operating Fund.--Money collected shall be paid to the  
10 court imposing the fine, or fee, which shall forward it to the  
11 State Treasurer for deposit into a special fund to be known as  
12 the Emergency Medical Services Volunteer Fire and Rescue  
13 Companies Operating Fund. Moneys in the fund shall be  
14 appropriated annually by the General Assembly.

15 (d) Purpose of fund.--[All] After the allocation to the  
16 Catastrophic Medical and Rehabilitation Fund is made under  
17 subsection (e), fifty percent of the remaining money from the  
18 Emergency Medical Services and Volunteer Fire and Rescue  
19 Companies Operating Fund shall be disbursed by the department to  
20 eligible providers of emergency medical services, as determined  
21 by the department by regulation, to the State Advisory Council  
22 and to regional emergency medical services councils for the  
23 initiation, expansion, maintenance and improvement of emergency  
24 medical services, including ambulance and communications  
25 equipment and for training, education and ambulance licensure  
26 purposes. The remaining 50% of the money in the fund shall be  
27 disbursed to Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency for grants  
28 to volunteer fire and rescue companies. PEMA shall adopt  
29 regulations to carry out the purposes of this section. These  
30 funds shall not be used for any other purposes.

1       (e) Allocation to Catastrophic Medical and Rehabilitation  
2 Fund.--Twenty-five percent of the fund shall be allocated to a  
3 Catastrophic Medical and Rehabilitation Fund for victims of  
4 trauma. The catastrophic fund shall be available to trauma  
5 victims to purchase medical, rehabilitation and attendant care  
6 services when all alternative financial resources have been  
7 exhausted. The department may, by regulation, prioritize the  
8 distribution of funds by classification of traumatic injury.

9       (f) Audit.--The Auditor General shall review collections and  
10 expenditures made pursuant to the provisions of this section and  
11 report its findings to the General Assembly annually. This audit  
12 shall include a review of the collections and expenditures of  
13 the emergency medical services councils.

14       Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.