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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1949 Session of  
1991

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INTRODUCED BY TANGRETTI, TRICH, FAIRCHILD, MELIO, KUKOVICH,  
NAHILL, STABACK, McCALL, MIHALICH, BUNT, KRUSZEWSKI, SALOOM,  
BELARDI, FLEAGLE, PISTELLA, VEON, BROUJOS, COLAIZZO, TIGUE,  
BELFANTI, GERLACH, ARNOLD, E. Z. TAYLOR, TRELLO AND KENNEY,  
AUGUST 2, 1991

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AUGUST 2, 1991

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 24, 1976 (P.L.424, No.101), entitled,  
2 as amended, "An act providing for the payment of death  
3 benefits to the surviving spouse or children or parents of  
4 firefighters, ambulance service or rescue squad members or  
5 law enforcement officers killed in the performance of their  
6 duties," further defining eligibility for benefits.

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

9 Section 1. Section 2 of the act of June 24, 1976 (P.L.424,  
10 No.101), referred to as the Emergency and Law Enforcement  
11 Personnel Death Benefits Act, amended October 16, 1981 (P.L.295,  
12 No.102), is amended to read:

13 Section 2. "Firefighter, ambulance service or rescue squad  
14 member or law enforcement officer" means a firefighter, member  
15 of a volunteer fire company, member of an ambulance service or  
16 rescue squad, peace officer as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 501  
17 (relating to definitions), public servant concerned in official  
18 detention as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 5121 (relating to escape),

1 an officer or employee of a State correctional institution,  
2 guards or employees of county jails and prisons or other law  
3 enforcement officer of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of  
4 any political subdivision thereof.

5 "Killed" means cessation of all bodily functions caused by  
6 any wound, accident, disease or strain arising or incurred  
7 during the performance of any official duty or activity.

8 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

9 Section 2.1. This act shall be broadly construed to grant  
10 benefits to firefighters, ambulance service or rescue squad  
11 members or law enforcement officers for deaths related to the  
12 performance of their duties.

13 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.