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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1230 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY HANNA, O'NEILL, D. COSTA, FREEMAN, COX, CAUSER,  
McNEILL, SAINATO, MASSER, GILLEN, CONKLIN AND FARRY,  
APRIL 17, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, APRIL 17, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth services, providing  
3 for emergency services provider payment.

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

6 Section 1. Chapter 73 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subchapter to read:

8 SUBCHAPTER G

9 EMERGENCY SERVICES PROVIDER PAYMENT

10 Sec.

11 7390. Definitions.

12 7391. Payment for emergency services responses.

13 7392. Certain municipalities exempt.

14 7393. Approval of response.

15 § 7390. Definitions.

16 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter

17 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

1 context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Department." The Department of Conservation and Natural  
3 Resources of the Commonwealth.

4 "Emergency communication center." A facility recognized by  
5 the State or governing body of a municipality to do all of the  
6 following:

7 (1) Receive emergency calls.

8 (2) Determine the appropriate agency, equipment and  
9 vehicles required to respond to emergency calls.

10 (3) Dispatch the appropriate agency, equipment and  
11 vehicles to the location of the emergency situation, incident  
12 or event.

13 "Emergency services provider." A municipal, public, private  
14 or nonprofit service whose purpose is to respond to emergency  
15 situations, incidents or events and provide emergency or  
16 nonemergency assistance and service to the public. The term  
17 includes all of the following:

18 (1) A hazardous materials response unit, fire service,  
19 ambulance, heavy and light rescue squad unit, quick response  
20 unit and other related emergency units used in the normal  
21 operation of an emergency service.

22 (2) A volunteer emergency service.

23 "Emergency situation, incident or event." Any of the  
24 following:

25 (1) A disaster.

26 (2) Nonemergency calls for medical assistance.

27 (3) Any other situation, incident or event that does or  
28 may present a potential danger and threat to the health and  
29 safety of members of the public.

30 "Municipal emergency services department." A fire

1 department, ambulance service or rescue squad established,  
2 operated and funded by a municipality.

3 "Officially recognized dispatch." The dispatch of a  
4 volunteer emergency services organization by an emergency  
5 communication center.

6 "State-owned land." Land that is owned or leased by or under  
7 the control of the Department of Conservation and Natural  
8 Resources.

9 "Volunteer ambulance service." The term shall have the same  
10 meaning given to it in section 7363 (relating to definitions).

11 "Volunteer fire company." The term shall have the same  
12 meaning given to it in section 7363.

13 "Volunteer hazardous material response team." A nonprofit  
14 chartered corporation, association or organization located in  
15 this Commonwealth whose members are specially trained to respond  
16 to accidents or situations where hazardous or toxic materials  
17 are released into the environment.

18 "Volunteer rescue squad." A nonprofit chartered corporation,  
19 association or organization located in this Commonwealth which  
20 provides rescue service in this Commonwealth.

21 § 7391. Payment for emergency services responses.

22 (a) General rule.--The department shall pay an emergency  
23 services provider \$225 when the department requests emergency  
24 services from the emergency services provider during an  
25 emergency situation, incident or event on State-owned land, and  
26 the emergency services provider responds to the request.

27 (b) Procedures.--The department shall develop:

28 (1) procedures regarding requests to emergency services  
29 providers for emergency services during an emergency  
30 situation, incident or event on State-owned land; and

1           (2) notwithstanding subsection (c), procedures regarding  
2 payment under subsection (a).

3           (c) Payment.--The department shall make payment under  
4 subsection (a) as follows:

5           (1) To the volunteer emergency service organization that  
6 responded.

7           (2) To the municipality, if a municipal emergency  
8 services department that serves one municipality responded.

9           (3) To the municipal emergency services department, if a  
10 municipal emergency services department that serves more than  
11 one municipality responded.

12 § 7392. Certain municipalities exempt.

13           This subchapter shall not apply to an agreement for the  
14 provision of emergency services entered into between the  
15 department and an emergency services provider on or before the  
16 effective date of this section.

17 § 7393. Approval of response.

18           (a) Prerequisite.--

19           (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), a volunteer  
20 emergency services organization that responds to a request  
21 for emergency services during an emergency situation,  
22 incident or event on State-owned land from the Pennsylvania  
23 State Police or local police that has not come through an  
24 emergency communication center must be approved by an  
25 emergency communication center prior to responding to the  
26 special call or request.

27           (2) A response to a special call or request from the  
28 Pennsylvania State Police or local police regardless of  
29 whether the call or request comes through an emergency  
30 communication center shall be deemed an officially recognized

1 dispatch.

2 (b) Duties of emergency communication center.--Upon  
3 notification by a volunteer rescue services organization of an  
4 officially recognized dispatch on State-owned land, the  
5 emergency communication center shall:

6 (1) Approve the response.

7 (2) Assign a dispatch number to the volunteer emergency  
8 services organization.

9 (3) Contact the municipal emergency services department,  
10 organization or person making the request to confirm the  
11 request.

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