

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2522 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY FARRY, BARRAR, SCHLOSSBERG, GREINER, READSHAW,
ROTHMAN, J. McNEILL, SANTORA, KORTZ AND DeLUCA, JUNE 21, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, JUNE 21, 2018

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), entitled "An
2 act defining the liability of an employer to pay damages for
3 injuries received by an employe in the course of employment;
4 establishing an elective schedule of compensation; providing
5 procedure for the determination of liability and compensation
6 thereunder; and prescribing penalties," in self-insurance
7 pooling, providing for volunteer fire companies.

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

10 Section 1. The act of June 2, 1915 (P.L.736, No.338), known
11 as the Workers' Compensation Act, is amended by adding a section
12 to read:

13 Section 820. (a) The department shall promulgate
14 regulations establishing a process for groups of political
15 subdivisions to create funds under this article to insure the
16 liability under this act of volunteer fire companies. The
17 department may waive or modify the requirements of this article
18 to effectuate the purpose of providing affordable workers'
19 compensation insurance coverage to volunteer fire companies.

20 (b) The secretary shall determine any and all excess

1 reserves maintained by the State Workers' Insurance Fund for any
2 particular volunteer fire company which it currently insures and
3 shall ensure excess reserve is transferred to the appropriate
4 group's fund if the volunteer fire company's host municipality
5 opts to enter coverage offered by the group.

6 (c) Excess reserves associated with volunteer fire companies
7 which maintain coverage with insurers other than the State
8 Workers' Insurance Fund shall be transmitted, in a manner
9 prescribed by the department, by the insurer to the appropriate
10 group's fund.

11 (d) The regulations may include a requirement that the fund
12 accept responsibility for the administration of existing claims
13 associated with the members of the political subdivisions.

14 (e) The department shall report, annually, to the Governor,
15 the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the
16 House of Representatives, the number of enrollees, the amount of
17 any anticipated surplus or deficiency of the group, and shall
18 also provide to the Governor, the President pro tempore of the
19 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives sixty
20 (60) days' advance notice of any proposed change in premium
21 rates for the group.

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