AN ACT

Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), entitled "An act relating to the finances of the State government; providing for cancer control, prevention and research, for ambulatory surgical center data collection, for the Joint Underwriting Association, for entertainment business financial management firms, for private dam financial assurance and for reinstatement of item vetoes; providing for the settlement, assessment, collection, and lien of taxes, bonus, and all other accounts due the Commonwealth, the collection and recovery of fees and other money or property due or belonging to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof, including escheated property and the proceeds of its sale, the custody and disbursement or other disposition of funds and securities belonging to or in the possession of the Commonwealth, and the settlement of claims against the Commonwealth, the resettlement of accounts and appeals to the courts, refunds of moneys erroneously paid to the Commonwealth, auditing the accounts of the Commonwealth and all agencies thereof, of all public officers collecting moneys payable to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof, and all receipts of appropriations from the Commonwealth, authorizing the Commonwealth to issue tax anticipation notes to defray current expenses, implementing the provisions of section 7(a) of Article VIII of the Constitution of Pennsylvania authorizing and restricting the incurring of certain debt and imposing penalties; affecting every department, board, commission, and officer of the State government, every political subdivision of the State, and certain officers of such subdivisions, every person, association, and corporation required to pay, assess, or collect taxes, or to make returns or reports under the laws imposing taxes for State purposes, or to pay license fees or
other moneys to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof, every State depository and every debtor or creditor of the Commonwealth," in additional special funds and restricted accounts, providing for COVID-19 response transfers for assistance to the Commonwealth's volunteer service organizations.

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

Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, is amended by adding a section to read:

Section 1737-A.1. COVID-19 response transfers for assistance to the Commonwealth's volunteer service organizations.

(a) Transfers.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Secretary of the Budget may transfer the sum of $10,000,000 from special funds under the Governor's jurisdiction to a restricted account as provided under subsection (b) to assist the operations of the Commonwealth's volunteer service organizations.

(b) Deposit.--The funds transferred under subsection (a) shall be deposited by the Secretary of the Budget into a restricted account within the General Fund of the State Treasury as necessary to make payments under this section and, when transferred, are hereby appropriated to carry out the provisions of this section related to the Commonwealth's COVID-19 response.

(c) Deficit.--The Secretary of the Budget may not make a transfer of funds if the transfer would result in a deficit in any of the funds.

(d) Authorization.--The Secretary of the Budget shall only be authorized to make transfers under subsection (a) to the extent that written approval for the transfer is received from the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(e) Distribution of funds.--The Secretary of the Budget, in
consultation with the State Fire Commissioner, shall distribute the funds in the restricted account under subsection (b) to each volunteer service organization in this Commonwealth in the form of a grant equal to the amount of funds available in the restricted account divided by the number of applications received for a grant program under 35 Pa.C.S. Ch. 78 (relating to grants to fire companies and emergency medical services companies) for the application period beginning on September 1, 2019. An agreement or application by a volunteer service organization shall not be required to receive a grant under this subsection.

(f) Report.--No later than September 30, 2020, the Secretary of the Budget shall provide a report detailing all spending related to the COVID-19 response the Commonwealth has made under this section, including the name of each recipient of funds and the dollar amount issued. The Secretary of the Budget shall provide the report to the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate, the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives, the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Senate and the chairperson and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the House of Representatives.

(g) Expiration.--The authority to transfer funds under subsection (a) shall expire on September 30, 2020.

(h) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
"COVID-19." The novel coronavirus as identified in the Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued on March 6, 2020.

"Volunteer service organization." A volunteer EMS company, volunteer fire company or volunteer rescue company as defined in 35 Pa.C.S. § 7802 (relating to definitions).

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.