

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 423 Session of  
1999

INTRODUCED BY LUCYK, YOUNGBLOOD, BELARDI, CAWLEY, BELFANTI,  
McCALL, MELIO, M. COHEN, LAUGHLIN, TRELLO, ROBERTS, PRESTON,  
THOMAS AND CIVERA, FEBRUARY 9, 1999

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, FEBRUARY 9, 1999

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled  
2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the  
3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the  
4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative  
5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,  
6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or  
7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or  
8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative  
9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and  
10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative  
11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,  
12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the  
13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive  
14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of  
15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and  
16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,  
17 and commissions; and prescribing the manner in which the  
18 number and compensation of the deputies and all other  
19 assistants and employes of certain departments, boards and  
20 commissions shall be determined," providing for establishment  
21 of the office of veterans' ombudsman in every Commonwealth  
22 agency.

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

25 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known  
26 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a  
27 section to read:

1     Section 213.1. Veterans' Ombudsman.--(a) The Governor shall  
2 appoint and fix the compensation of a veterans' ombudsman in  
3 each administrative agency, except those of the Department of  
4 Auditor General and Treasury Department, who shall represent the  
5 interests of veterans in all aspects of the operation of the  
6 agency.

7     (b) The veterans' ombudsman in each administrative agency  
8 shall not hold any other position or perform any other duties in  
9 that agency except those duties relating to the position of  
10 veterans' ombudsman.

11     (c) The veterans' ombudsman must have a working knowledge of  
12 veterans' rights and benefits.

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