THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No.   1460   Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY GILLEN, BARRAR, AUMENT, BROOKS, R. BROWN,
    V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, COX, DENLINGER, EVERETT,
    GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, HAGGERTY, C. HARRIS, HENNESSEY,
    KORTZ, METCALFE, MILLARD, R. MILLER, OBERLANDER, PAINTER,
    RAPP, READSHAW, ROCK, SCHLOSSBERG, SWANGER, TOEPEL, WATSON,
    MURT, MARSHALL AND ENGLISH, MAY 30, 2013

SENATOR CORMAN, APPROPRIATIONS, IN SENATE, RE-REPORTED AS
    AMENDED, JUNE 2, 2014

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania
2   Consolidated Statutes, further providing for educational
3   leave of absence; AND PROVIDING FOR HEROIC SERVICE WEBSITE.   **<--**

4   The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

5 hereby enacts as follows:

6   Section 1. Section 7313 of Title 51 of the Pennsylvania

7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 7313. Educational leave of absence.

9   Whenever any member of the Pennsylvania National Guard or

10 other reserve component of the armed forces of the United States

11 shall be called or ordered to active duty, other than active

12 duty for training, including, in the case of members of the

13 Pennsylvania National Guard, active State duty, the educational

14 institution in which the member is enrolled shall grant the

15 member or the member's spouse a military leave of absence from

1 their education. <u>The member or the member's spouse shall receive</u>

2 <u>an "M" OR "MILITARY" on their grade transcript for all classes</u> **<--**

3 <u>they are unable to complete due to a military leave of absence.</u>

4 Members and spouses on military leave of absence from their

5 educational institution shall be entitled, upon the member's

6 release from military duty, to be restored to the educational

7 status they had attained prior to the member's being ordered to

8 military duty without loss of academic credits earned,

9 scholarships or grants awarded or tuition and other fees paid

10 prior to the commencement of the military duty. It shall be the

11 duty of the educational institution to refund tuition or fees

12 paid or to credit the tuition and fees to the next semester or

13 term after the termination of the educational military leave of

14 absence at the option of the student.

15   SECTION 2. TITLE 51 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A CHAPTER TO READ: **<--**

16   <u>CHAPTER 97</u>

17   <u>HEROIC SERVICE WEBSITE</u>

18 <u>SEC.</u>

19 <u>9701. RESPONSIBILITIES.</u>

20 <u>§ 9701. RESPONSIBILITIES.--</u>

21 <u>THE DEPARTMENT SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:</u>

22   <u>(1) IN CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED</u>

23 <u>STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, TO CREATE, ADMINISTER AND</u>

24 <u>MAINTAIN A SEARCHABLE DATABASE OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN</u>

25 <u>AWARDED THE MEDAL OF HONOR AS WELL AS ANY OTHER AWARD OR</u>

26 <u>DECORATION THAT IS GRANTED FOR HEROIC SERVICE IN THE ARMED</u>

27 <u>FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES. THE SEARCHABLE DATABASE SHALL</u>

28 <u>INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:</u>

29   <u>(I) THE RECIPIENT'S FULL NAME.</u>

30   <u>(II) THE RECIPIENT'S DATES OF SERVICE.</u>

1   (III)   THE NAME OF THE AWARD OR DECORATION.

2   (IV)   THE DATE OF AWARD OR DECORATION.

3   (2)   WITHIN ONE YEAR OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS

4   PARAGRAPH, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A REPORT DETAILING THE

5   FEASIBILITY OF EXPANDING THE DATABASE ESTABLISHED UNDER

6   PARAGRAPH (1) OF ALL MILITARY AWARDS AND DECORATIONS. THE

7   REPORT SHALL INCLUDE AN ESTIMATE OF THE COSTS TO THE

8   DEPARTMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT, ADMINISTRATION

9   AND MAINTENANCE OF THE EXPANDED DATABASE UNDER THIS

10   PARAGRAPH. THE REPORT SHALL BE PUBLISHED ON THE DEPARTMENT'S

11   PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE AND SHALL BE DELIVERED

12   TO THE VETERANS' AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

13   OF THE SENATE AND TO THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY

14   PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

15   (3)   THE DATABASE ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) SHALL

16   BE AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET

17   WEBSITE.

18   Section 2 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.   **<--**