
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1522 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY BARBIN, BARRAR, SAINATO, READSHAW, D. COSTA,
THOMAS, ROZZI, WATSON, V. BROWN, BIZZARRO, RAPP, MURT,
DRISCOLL, MILLARD, McNEILL, WARD, MAHONEY, GILLEN AND
JOZWIAK, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

AN ACT

1 Providing funding to the Department of Military and Veterans
2 Affairs for the purpose of providing current service members
3 and veterans with access to high-definition fiber tracking
4 brain scans and supporting ongoing clinical research in this
5 Commonwealth involving traumatic brain injuries.

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

8 Section 1. Short title.

9 This act shall be known and may be cited as the High-
10 Definition Fiber Tracking (HDFT) for Veterans Act.

11 Section 2. Definitions.

12 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
13 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
14 context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Brain scan equipment." Health care imaging equipment
16 capable of identifying brain damage by graphic depiction of
17 individual nerve tracts.

18 "Department." The Department of Military and Veterans

1 Affairs of the Commonwealth.

2 "Eligible center." A health care facility designated by the
3 department to provide access to HDFT brain scans.

4 "HDFT." A brain scan employing High-Definition Fiber
5 Tracking technology.

6 Section 3. Military members and veterans.

7 (a) Diagnosis.--Any military veteran or active duty or
8 reserve member of the United States Armed Forces or National
9 Guard who has symptoms of traumatic brain injury or
10 posttraumatic stress or evidence of combat-related concussion
11 shall be eligible to receive diagnostic treatment through the
12 use of the new HDFT technology using equipment located in this
13 Commonwealth.

14 (b) Eligible centers.--The military veteran shall visit an
15 eligible center in order to begin the process for the use of the
16 diagnostic technology.

17 (c) Brain scan equipment.--The equipment shall be provided
18 to eligible centers to provide access to HDFT technology
19 throughout this Commonwealth.

20 Section 4. Regulations.

21 The department shall promulgate regulations for the
22 implementation of this act. The regulations shall allow for the
23 maximum number of military members and veterans to be able to
24 use the HDFT technology.

25 Section 5. Funding.

26 (a) Eligible centers.--One million dollars shall be
27 appropriated for the implementation of this act and shall be
28 used by the department for distribution to all eligible centers.
29 The amount shall be distributed proportionally based on the
30 number of veterans served at each eligible center. The money

1 received by each eligible center shall be used to pay for
2 hardware and software costs of the diagnostic technology and
3 administrative expenses of the eligible center directly related
4 to the provision of HDFT scans to military members and veterans.

5 (b) Brain scan equipment.--One million dollars shall be
6 appropriated for the implementation of this act and shall be
7 distributed by the department to ensure availability of the
8 diagnostic technology at locations throughout this Commonwealth.

9 Section 6. Appropriation.

10 The sum of \$2,000,000, or as much thereof as may be
11 necessary, is appropriated to the department for the fiscal year
12 July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, to carry out the provisions
13 of this act.

14 Section 7. Effective date.

15 This act shall take effect in 60 days.