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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2273 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY CIRESI, HENNESSEY, SAPPEY, WILLIAMS, FREEMAN,  
THOMAS, HANBIDGE, McNEILL, YOUNGBLOOD, READSHAW, HILL-EVANS,  
MURT, MALAGARI, DeLUCA, GALLOWAY, SAINATO, FARRY, GILLEN,  
BURNS, WEBSTER, DONATUCCI, KULIK, SHUSTERMAN, KORTZ, VITALI,  
ULLMAN, HOHENSTEIN, HOWARD, DRISCOLL, KIM AND CONKLIN,  
FEBRUARY 4, 2020

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 4, 2020

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in fees, providing for exemption of active  
3 volunteer first responders from fees.

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

6 Section 1. Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 1901.1. Exemption of active volunteer first responders from  
9 fees.

10 (a) General rule.--No fees shall be charged under sections  
11 1305 (relating to application for registration) and 1309  
12 (relating to renewal of registration) to an active volunteer  
13 first responder certified under subsection (b) for a vehicle  
14 owned by the active volunteer first responder to respond to  
15 emergencies.

16 (b) Certification.--To receive an exemption under subsection

1 (a), the department shall certify an individual as an active  
2 volunteer first responder. To obtain certification under this  
3 subsection:

4 (1) An applicant for certification as an active first  
5 responder shall submit a signed application to the executive  
6 officer.

7 (2) The executive officer and another officer of the  
8 first response organization shall:

9 (i) Sign the application attesting to the  
10 individual's status as an active first responder.

11 (ii) Forward the application to the department for  
12 final review and approval.

13 (iii) Submit vehicle information for the vehicle  
14 used by the active first responder to respond to  
15 emergencies.

16 (3) The department shall consider the following factors:

17 (i) The number of emergency calls to which a  
18 volunteer responds.

19 (ii) The level of training and participation in  
20 formal training and drills of a volunteer.

21 (iii) The total amount of time expended by a  
22 volunteer on administrative and other support services,  
23 including fundraising and facility or equipment  
24 maintenance.

25 (iv) The involvement in other events or projects  
26 that aid the financial viability, emergency response or  
27 operational readiness of a volunteer fire company or a  
28 nonprofit emergency medical services agency.

29 (c) Guidelines.--The department shall adopt guidelines,  
30 including forms and applications, necessary to implement this

1 section.

2 (d) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
3 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
4 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

5 "Active first responder." A member of a first response  
6 organization.

7 "Emergency medical services agency." As defined in 35  
8 Pa.C.S. § 8103 (relating to definitions).

9 "Executive officer." The chief or president of the first  
10 response organization that a qualified applicant serves.

11 "First response organization." Any of the following:

12 (1) An emergency medical services agency.

13 (2) A volunteer fire company.

14 (3) A volunteer rescue company.

15 "Volunteer fire company." As defined in 35 Pa.C.S. § 7802  
16 (relating to definitions).

17 "Volunteer rescue company." As defined in 35 Pa.C.S. § 7802.

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 90 days.