
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 474 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY WATRO, CABELL, STAATS, JAMES, HAMM, GILLEN,
PICKETT, TWARDZIK, FLICK, JOZWIAK AND OLSOMMER, JUNE 10, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, JUNE 10, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Beseeching the President and Congress of the United States and
2 the United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take
3 corrective action on Critical Skill Incentive Payments at the
4 United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

5 WHEREAS, In September 2023, the United States Department of
6 Veterans Affairs (VA) erroneously awarded millions of dollars in
7 Critical Skill Incentive (CSI) payments to senior executives at
8 its central office; and

9 WHEREAS, CSIs serve as a recruitment and retention tool
10 authorized by the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT)
11 Act, designed to support employees possessing high-demand skills
12 or skills in shortage areas; and

13 WHEREAS, The Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted a
14 review and found that the award of CSIs lacked adequate
15 justification and was inconsistent with the PACT Act and VA
16 policy; and

17 WHEREAS, OIG discovered that the agency had used nearly \$11
18 million in CSI payments to fund bonuses for more than 180 senior

1 executives in the central office; and

2 WHEREAS, Upon learning of these payments, VA leadership
3 demanded that the executives reimburse the department, however,
4 the money is still being recouped; and

5 WHEREAS, This situation has prompted increased scrutiny and
6 calls for further corrective action, emphasizing transparency
7 and accountability to prevent similar issues from arising in the
8 future; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives beseech the
10 President and Congress of the United States and the United
11 States Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take swift and decisive
12 action to address these critical issues to restore confidence in
13 the integrity of the system, uphold veterans' interests and
14 ensure responsible stewardship of taxpayer funds; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
17 the President of the United States, the United States Secretary
18 of Veterans Affairs, the presiding officers of each house of
19 Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.