

2017D06658LKK:NLG

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

**AN ACT**

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

**INTRODUCED** \_\_\_\_\_ **20** \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_ **District NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_ **District NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_ **District NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_ **District NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**See next page for additional co-sponsors.**

**Prior Session** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Referred to Committee on</b>	
<b>Date</b> _____	<b>20</b> _____
<b>Reported</b> _____	<b>20</b> _____
<b>As Committed-Amended</b>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	
_____	
<b>By Hon.</b> _____	

## 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  
19 Affairs of the Commonwealth.

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

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

5 Section 3. Military members and veterans.

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

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

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

19 Section 4. Regulations.

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

24 Section 5. Appropriation.

25 The sum of \$1,000,000, or as much thereof as may be  
26 necessary, is appropriated to the department for the fiscal year  
27 July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, to carry out the provisions  
28 of this act.

29 Section 6. Funding.

30 (a) Eligible centers.--Five hundred thousand dollars shall

1 be distributed by the department to all eligible centers  
2 proportionally based on the number of veterans and active  
3 members served at each eligible center. The money received by  
4 each eligible center shall be used to pay for hardware and  
5 software costs of the diagnostic technology and administrative  
6 expenses of the eligible center directly related to the  
7 provision of HDFT scans to military members and veterans.

8 (b) Brain scan equipment.--Five hundred thousand dollars  
9 shall be distributed by the department to ensure availability of  
10 the diagnostic technology at eligible centers throughout this  
11 Commonwealth.

12 Section 7. Effective date.

13 This act shall take effect in 60 days.