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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**

**No. 385**

Session of  
1975

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INTRODUCED BY A. K. HUTCHINSON, ZELLER AND BRADLEY,  
FEBRUARY 11, 1975

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LAW AND JUSTICE, FEBRUARY 11, 1975

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AN ACT

1 Providing for the payment of death benefits to the surviving  
2 spouse or children of firemen or law enforcement officers  
3 killed in the performance of their duties.

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

6 Section 1. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and every  
7 political subdivision shall pay to the surviving spouse, or, if  
8 there is no surviving spouse, the minor children, of a fireman  
9 or law enforcement officer killed in the performance of his  
10 duties the sum of \$25,000.

11 Upon payment of this death benefit by a political  
12 subdivision, the political subdivision shall apply to the State  
13 Treasurer and be reimbursed for the total amount by the  
14 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payments by the Commonwealth or  
15 reimbursement to the political subdivisions shall be made out of  
16 the General Fund of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

17 Section 2. "Fireman or law enforcement officer" means a  
18 fireman, peace officer as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. §501 (relating to

1 definitions), public servant concerned in official detention as  
2 defined in 18 Pa.C.S. §5121 (relating to escape) or other law  
3 enforcement officer of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of  
4 any political subdivision thereof.

5 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.