
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 385

Session of
1975

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

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, MAY 18, 1976

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. A political subdivision shall pay to the
7 surviving spouse, or, if there is no surviving spouse, the minor
8 children, of a fireman or law enforcement officer of the
9 political subdivision killed in the performance of his duties
10 the sum of \$25,000. The benefit shall be payable whether or not
11 the officer was killed within the corporate boundaries of the
12 employing municipality.

13 The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall pay to the surviving
14 spouse, or, if there is no surviving spouse, the minor children
15 of a State policeman or other law enforcement officer of the
16 Commonwealth killed in the performance of his duties the sum of
17 \$25,000. The benefit shall be payable whether or not the officer
18 was killed within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

1 Upon payment of this death benefit by a political
2 subdivision, the political subdivision shall apply to the State
3 Treasurer and be reimbursed for the total amount by the
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payments by the Commonwealth or
5 reimbursement to the political subdivisions shall be made out of
6 the General Fund of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

7 Section 2. "Fireman or law enforcement officer" means a
8 fireman, peace officer as defined in 18 Pa.C.S.§501 (relating to
9 definitions), public servant concerned in official detention as
10 defined in 18 Pa.C.S.§5121 (relating to escape), an officer or
11 employee of a State correctional institution, guards or
12 employees of county jails and prisons or other law enforcement
13 officer of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or of any political
14 subdivision thereof.

15 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately AND ITS ←
16 PROVISIONS SHALL BE RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 1976.