

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1180 Session of
1985

INTRODUCED BY GREENWOOD, BELFANTI, JOSEPHS, E. Z. TAYLOR,
DISTLER, STEWART, FISCHER, GEIST, SEMMEL, NOYE, MICOZZIE,
TRELLO AND BARBER, MAY 13, 1985

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE, MAY 13, 1985

AN ACT

1 Providing for a continuous source of funds for emergency medical
2 service providers and for victims of trauma; further
3 providing for the powers of the Department of Health; and
4 establishing the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund.

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

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Emergency
9 Medical Services Funding Act.

10 Section 2. Legislative findings and intent.

11 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds it in the public
12 interest to assure the availability of emergency medical
13 services to prevent premature death and reduce suffering and
14 disability. The General Assembly further finds that in 1983
15 Pennsylvania's lifesaving providers, 90% of whom are volunteers,
16 responded to more than 72,000 motor vehicle accidents resulting
17 in injury. The total number of motor vehicle accidents that
18 resulted in injury during 1983 was 128,459, and nearly 2,000

1 Pennsylvanians died in these accidents.

2 (b) Intent.--It is the intention of the General Assembly and
3 the purpose of this act to:

4 (1) Provide a continuous source of funds for the
5 providers of emergency medical services.

6 (2) Establish a Catastrophic Medical and Rehabilitation
7 Fund for victims of trauma.

8 Section 3. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

13 "Emergency medical services." The services utilized in
14 responding to the needs of an individual for immediate medical
15 care in order to prevent loss of life or aggravation of
16 physiological or psychological illness or injury.

17 "Secretary." The Secretary of Health of the Commonwealth.

18 Section 4. Support of emergency medical services.

19 Pursuant to the passage of this act, a \$10 fine shall be
20 levied on all moving traffic violations for which points are
21 issued and a \$30 fee shall be levied for driving while under the
22 influence of alcohol convictions. These fines shall be in
23 addition to other fines imposed at the discretion of the court.

24 (1) Money collected shall be paid to the court imposing
25 the fine which shall forward it to the State Treasurer for
26 deposit into a special revolving fund to be known as the
27 Emergency Medical Operating Services Operating Fund.

28 (2) All money from the Emergency Medical Services
29 Operating Fund shall be disbursed by the department for the
30 initiation, expansion, maintenance and improvement of

1 emergency medical services.

2 (3) Twenty-five percent of the fund shall be allocated
3 to a Catastrophic Medical and Rehabilitation Fund for victims
4 of trauma. The catastrophic fund shall be available to trauma
5 victims to purchase medical, rehabilitation and attendant
6 care services when all alternative financial resources have
7 been exhausted.

8 (4) Funds available under this section shall be deemed
9 supplemental to annual preferred budget line items and
10 nonpreferred State and Federal grants for emergency medical
11 services.

12 Section 5. Effective date.

13 This act shall take effect in 60 days.