

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL

No. 1179 Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY R. MILLER, SEMMEL, BARRAR, BENNINGHOFF,  
CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CRAHALLA, DALLY, DeWEESE, FAIRCHILD,  
GEIST, GEORGE, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARPER,  
HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, W. KELLER, KENNEY,  
KOTIK, LEDERER, MACKERETH, McILHATTAN, NAILOR, O'NEILL,  
PHILLIPS, PISTELLA, RAPP, REICHLEY, RUBLEY, STABACK, SURRA,  
TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR, TIGUE, YOUNGBLOOD, ZUG, SIPTROTH,  
DENLINGER, CIVERA, MELIO, HABAY, BROWNE, SAMUELSON, WRIGHT,  
MUSTIO AND THOMAS, MARCH 29, 2005

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
MAY 3, 2005

## AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, establishing the Military Family  
3 Relief Fund and its operation. ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE <—  
4 MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF ASSISTANCE FUND; AND MAKING AN  
5 APPROPRIATION.

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

8 Section 1. Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
9 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

10 § 7319. Contributions to Military Family Relief Fund MILITARY <—  
11 FAMILY RELIEF ASSISTANCE.

12 (a) Creation ESTABLISHMENT of fund.--In order to carry out <—  
13 the purposes of section 315.8 of the act of March 4, 1971

14 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, there is

15 hereby established under the State Treasurer a special fund, IN <—

1 THE STATE TREASURY A RESTRICTED REVENUE ACCOUNT WITHIN THE  
2 GENERAL FUND which shall be known as the Military Family Relief  
3 ASSISTANCE Fund.

4 (b) Administration OF PROGRAM.--

5 ~~(1) The department, in cooperation with the State~~  
6 ~~Treasurer, shall administer the fund and shall accept~~

7 (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONTRACT WITH A NONPROFIT  
8 ENTITY TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED IN PARAGRAPH (2)  
9 AND SHALL ACCEPT voluntary contributions from persons for the  
10 fund.

11 (2) THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS  
12 ESTABLISHED. Contributions received for the fund shall be  
13 distributed by the department UNDER THE PROGRAM to  
14 Pennsylvania resident servicemen or servicewomen or their  
15 families that have suffered a sudden or unexpected loss of  
16 income or other source of support or a death or an illness of  
17 a family member OR A NATURAL OR MAN-MADE DISASTER that  
18 creates a direct and immediate demonstrable financial need  
19 for assistance in order to provide themselves and their  
20 families with food, shelter, clothing, required medical care  
21 and other necessities of life.

22 ~~(3) Persons applying for assistance from the fund UNDER~~  
23 ~~THE PROGRAM must physically reside in this Commonwealth and~~  
24 ~~demonstrate that they have applied for and been turned down~~  
25 ~~for existing relief programs as determined by the department.~~

26 (c) Rules.--The department shall develop rules and  
27 regulations necessary to administer the provisions of this  
28 chapter SECTION.

29 (d) Moneys received.--All moneys received from the voluntary  
30 contribution system established in section 315.8 of the Tax

1 Reform Code of 1971 shall be deposited in the fund.

2 (E) ELECTRONIC DONATIONS AND APPLICATIONS.--IN ADDITION TO <—  
3 THE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION SYSTEM ESTABLISHED IN SECTION 315.8  
4 OF THE TAX REFORM CODE OF 1971, THE COMMONWEALTH IS ALSO  
5 AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT ELECTRONIC DONATIONS TO THE FUND.  
6 ELECTRONIC DONATIONS SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE FUND AND THE  
7 FUND MAY ELECT TO PAY THE COST OF ANY SUCH ELECTRONIC  
8 TRANSACTION. IN ADDITION, THE AGENCY, NONPROFIT OR PERSON  
9 RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTERING THE FUND SHALL ENSURE THAT  
10 APPLICATIONS TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM THIS FUND CAN BE  
11 OBTAINED ELECTRONICALLY. ALL AGENCIES OF STATE, COUNTY AND  
12 MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT WITHIN THIS COMMONWEALTH MAY INCLUDE A  
13 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF  
14 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, THE ELECTRONIC AND MAILING ADDRESS TO MAKE  
15 DONATIONS TO THIS FUND AND THE ELECTRONIC AND MAILING ADDRESS TO  
16 REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM THIS PROGRAM IN THEIR PUBLICATIONS,  
17 MAILINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

18 ~~(e)~~ (F) Future appropriations.--The General Assembly may, <—  
19 from time to time, appropriate funds into the ~~special~~ fund for <—  
20 the purposes of this section.

21 ~~(f)~~ (G) Use of fund money.--The moneys contained in the fund <—  
22 are ~~continuously appropriated~~ HEREBY APPROPRIATED ON A <—  
23 CONTINUING BASIS to the Department of Military and Veterans  
24 Affairs for the exclusive use of carrying out the purposes of  
25 this section.

26 SECTION 2. THE SUM OF \$250,000 IS HEREBY APPROPRIATED FROM <—  
27 THE GENERAL FUND TO THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF ASSISTANCE FUND.

28 Section ~~2~~ 3. This act shall take effect immediately. <—