## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## **HOUSE BILL**

No. 813

Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY GOODMAN, BARRAR, BOBACK, BROOKS, CARROLL, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, DAVIS, DEASY, DeLUCA, EVERETT, FLECK, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GROVE, HARHAI, HARHART, HARKINS, HESS, HORNAMAN, HUTCHINSON, JOSEPHS, KAVULICH, KILLION, KORTZ, KULA, MAHONEY, MANN, MARSHALL, MICOZZIE, MIRABITO, MURPHY, MURT, M. O'BRIEN, PETRARCA, PICKETT, PYLE, READSHAW, SABATINA, SANTARSIERO, SCAVELLO, K. SMITH, STABACK, STEVENSON, SWANGER, VULAKOVICH, WHEATLEY AND YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 24, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, FEBRUARY 24, 2011

## AN ACT

Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for exclusion of veterans' benefits from income calculations. 3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 5 hereby enacts as follows: 6 Section 1. Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read: 8 CHAPTER 95 9 VETERANS' BENEFITS EXCLUDED FROM 10 INCOME CALCULATIONS 11 Sec. 12 9501. Definitions. 13 9502. Veterans' benefits excluded from income calculations for 14 Commonwealth programs.

§ 9501. Definitions.

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- 1 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
- 2 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 3 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 4 <u>"Veterans' benefit." A service-connected compensation or</u>
- 5 benefit of any kind provided to a veteran by a Federal or State
- 6 agency or authorized under Federal or State law, including, but
- 7 not limited to, pensions, disability payments and rebates.
- 8 § 9502. Veterans' benefits excluded from income calculations
- 9 <u>for Commonwealth programs.</u>
- 10 (a) General rule. -- All veterans' benefits shall be excluded
- 11 from calculations of income or assets for determining
- 12 <u>eligibility for any Commonwealth benefit program, tax exemption,</u>
- 13 <u>fee exemption or rebate.</u>
- 14 (b) Extension to spouses. -- The exclusion under subsection
- 15 (a) shall apply to an unmarried surviving spouse upon the death
- 16 of a veteran for any veterans' benefit the unmarried surviving
- 17 spouse is entitled to receive under applicable Federal or State
- 18 <u>law.</u>
- 19 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.