

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILLNo. **175** Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY GOODMAN, GAINEY, MACKENZIE, REESE, FREEMAN,
BIZZARRO, SACCONI, READSHAW, THOMAS, COHEN, KAUFFMAN, JAMES,
DONATUCCI, SAMUELSON, BISHOP, McNEILL, CONKLIN, GODSHALL,
GRELL, YOUNGBLOOD, MURT, O'BRIEN, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MARSICO,
TALLMAN, DEASY, GABLER, SCHWEYER, MILLARD, DeLUCA, BARBIN,
SAINATO, D. COSTA, GIBBONS, BROWNLEE, MAHONEY, McCARTER,
HEFFLEY, ROZZI, FARRY, DAVIS AND SNYDER, JANUARY 22, 2015

SENATOR BROWNE, APPROPRIATIONS, IN SENATE, RE-REPORTED AS
AMENDED, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 24, 2006 (P.L.91, No.29), entitled "An
2 act providing compensation to persons in active service in
3 connection with the Persian Gulf Conflict or their
4 beneficiaries; authorizing the incurring of indebtedness and
5 the issue and sale of bonds by the Commonwealth for the
6 payment of compensation contingent upon electorate approval;
7 creating a special fund in the State Treasury to be known as
8 the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Compensation Bond Fund;
9 imposing powers and duties on the Department of General
10 Services; making appropriations; and making a related
11 repeal," further providing for application for compensation
12 and for Commonwealth indebtedness; AND PROVIDING FOR REPORTS. <--

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. Sections 4 and 12(e) of the act of April 26, 2006
16 (P.L.91, No.29), known as the Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans'
17 Benefit Act, is amended to read:

18 Section 4. Application for compensation.

19 (a) Application to Adjutant General.--Applications shall be

1 made by a veteran, the facility entitled under section 5(a) or
2 the beneficiaries designated under section 5(b). The Adjutant
3 General shall ascertain the applicants who are veterans and, as
4 to each veteran, the number of months of service for which the
5 veteran is entitled to receive compensation.

6 (b) Time for filing application.--The Adjutant General shall
7 not accept or consider any application filed after August 31,
8 [2015] 2018.

9 Section 12. Commonwealth indebtedness.

10 * * *

11 (e) Expiration.--Authorization to issue bonds and notes, not
12 including refunding bonds and replacement notes, for the purpose
13 of this act shall expire [~~ten~~ 13 years from the effective date <--
14 of this section] DECEMBER 31, 2019. <--

15 ~~Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.~~ <--

16 SECTION 2. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ: <--

17 SECTION 14.1. REPORTS.

18 (A) INITIAL.--BY FEBRUARY 1, 2016, THE DEPARTMENT OF
19 MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE
20 CHAIRMAN AND MINORITY CHAIRMAN OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
21 OF THE SENATE AND THE CHAIRMAN AND MINORITY CHAIRMAN OF THE
22 APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THE
23 REPORT SHALL CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE PROGRAM
24 UNDER THIS ACT FOR THE PERIOD AFTER DECEMBER 18, 2006, AND
25 BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2016:

26 (1) NAME, BRANCH OF SERVICE, PAYMENT DATE AND PAYMENT
27 AMOUNT FOR EACH PERSIAN GULF VETERAN WHO RECEIVED
28 COMPENSATION UNDER THIS ACT.

29 (2) AN ITEMIZATION, BY YEAR, OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND
30 OPERATING COSTS INCURRED IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE

1 PROGRAM, INCLUDING COSTS RELATED TO VENDOR OR CONSULTANT
2 CONTRACTS.

3 (3) A LIST OF EACH VENDOR OR CONSULTANT UTILIZED TO
4 ASSIST IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM AND A DETAILED
5 DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED.

6 (B) ANNUAL.--BY FEBRUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR AFTER 2016, THE
7 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS SHALL SUBMIT A
8 REPORT TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MINORITY CHAIRMAN OF THE
9 APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE CHAIRMAN AND
10 MINORITY CHAIRMAN OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE
11 OF REPRESENTATIVES. THE REPORT SHALL CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING
12 INFORMATION FOR THE PROGRAM FOR THE PRIOR YEAR:

13 (1) NAME, BRANCH OF SERVICE, PAYMENT DATE AND PAYMENT
14 AMOUNT FOR EACH VETERAN WHO RECEIVED COMPENSATION UNDER THIS
15 ACT.

16 (2) AN ITEMIZATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING COSTS
17 INCURRED IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM, INCLUDING
18 COSTS RELATED TO VENDOR OR CONSULTANT CONTRACTS.

19 (3) A LIST OF EACH VENDOR OR CONSULTANT UTILIZED TO
20 ASSIST IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM AND A DETAILED
21 DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED.

22 SECTION 3. THE AMENDMENT OF SECTION 4(B) OF THE ACT SHALL
23 APPLY RETROACTIVELY TO AUGUST 31, 2015.

24 SECTION 4. THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.