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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 497 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY GOODMAN, BARRAR, BIZZARRO, BOBACK, BROWNLEE,  
CARROLL, DEASY, DeLUCA, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, JAMES, KINSEY,  
KORTZ, MACKENZIE, MATZIE, MURT, O'BRIEN, RAVENSTAHL,  
SABATINA, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER, SIMS, SNYDER, THOMAS AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 17, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, FEBRUARY 17, 2015

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in miscellaneous provisions, providing  
3 for exclusion of veterans' benefits from income calculations.

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

6 Section 1. Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
7 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

8 CHAPTER 98

9 VETERANS' BENEFITS EXCLUDED FROM

10 INCOME CALCULATIONS

11 Sec.

12 9801. Definitions.

13 9802. Veterans' benefits excluded from income calculations for  
14 Commonwealth programs.

15 § 9801. Definitions.

16 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter

1 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
2 context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 "Veterans' benefit." A service-connected compensation or  
4 benefit of any kind provided to a veteran by a Federal or State  
5 agency or authorized under Federal or State law, including  
6 pensions, disability payments and rebates.

7 § 9802. Veterans' benefits excluded from income calculations  
8 for Commonwealth programs.

9 (a) General rule.--All veterans' benefits shall be excluded  
10 from calculations of income or assets for determining  
11 eligibility for any Commonwealth benefit program, tax exemption,  
12 fee exemption or rebate.

13 (b) Extension to spouses.--The exclusion under subsection  
14 (a) shall apply to an unmarried surviving spouse upon the death  
15 of a veteran for a veterans' benefit the unmarried surviving  
16 spouse is entitled to receive under applicable Federal or State  
17 law.

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.