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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1974 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY LONGIETTI, MILLARD, KOTIK, BAKER, JAMES, ROZZI,  
PASHINSKI, MURT, ENGLISH, THOMAS, CALTAGIRONE, NEILSON,  
GODSHALL, McNEILL, DRISCOLL, READSHAW, A. HARRIS, WHITE,  
D. COSTA, GIBBONS, PHILLIPS-HILL, COHEN, BRADFORD, PETRI,  
GILLEN AND PETRARCA, APRIL 8, 2016

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 8, 2016

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in dispositions  
3 independent of letters, family exemption, probate of wills  
4 and grant of letters, further providing for payments to  
5 family and funeral directors.

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

8 Section 1. Section 3101(a) of Title 20 of the Pennsylvania  
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

10 § 3101. Payments to family and funeral directors.

11 (a) Wages, salary or employee benefits.--Any employer of a  
12 person dying domiciled in this Commonwealth at any time after  
13 the death of the employee, whether or not a personal  
14 representative has been appointed, may pay wages, salary or any  
15 employee benefits due the deceased in an amount not exceeding  
16 [\$5,000] \$10,000 to the spouse, any child, the father or mother,  
17 or any sister or brother (preference being given in the order  
18 named) of the deceased employee. Any employer making such a

1 payment shall be released to the same extent as if payment had  
2 been made to a duly appointed personal representative of the  
3 decedent and he shall not be required to see to the application  
4 thereof. Any person to whom payment is made shall be answerable  
5 therefor to anyone prejudiced by an improper distribution.

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