

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 500 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY DAVIS, READSHAW, BRIGGS, MURT, McNEILL, KINSEY, BARRAR, NEILSON, FITZGERALD, SOLOMON, SCHWEYER, PASHINSKI AND KORTZ, FEBRUARY 14, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 14, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 21, 1937 (P.L.774, No.211), entitled "An
 2 act to facilitate vehicular traffic between the eastern and
 3 western sections of the Commonwealth by providing for the
 4 construction, operation and maintenance of a turnpike from a
 5 point at or near Middlesex in Cumberland County to a point at
 6 or near Irwin in Westmoreland County; providing for the
 7 creation of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, and
 8 conferring powers and imposing duties on said commission;
 9 authorizing the issuance of turnpike revenue bonds of the
 10 Commonwealth, payable solely from tolls, to pay the cost of
 11 such turnpike; providing that no debt of the Commonwealth
 12 shall be incurred in the exercise of any of the powers
 13 granted by this act; providing for the collection of tolls
 14 for the payment of such bonds and for the cost of
 15 maintenance, operation and repair of the turnpike; making
 16 such bonds exempt from taxation; constituting such bonds
 17 legal investments in certain instances; prescribing
 18 conditions upon which such turnpike shall become free;
 19 providing for condemnation; granting certain powers and
 20 authority to municipal subdivisions and agencies of the
 21 Commonwealth to cooperate with the commission; and
 22 authorizing the issuance of turnpike revenue refunding
 23 bonds," further providing for definitions; and providing for
 24 free or reduced tolls for active duty military personnel and
 25 veterans.

26 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 27 hereby enacts as follows:

28 Section 1. Section 3 of the act of May 21, 1937 (P.L.774,
 29 No.211), referred to as the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission

1 Act, is amended by adding subsections to read:

2 Section 3. That the following words and terms shall have the
3 following meanings:

4 * * *

5 (e) The term "active duty military personnel" shall mean a
6 person in the service of the armed forces of the United States,
7 including members of the Reserves and National Guard on active
8 duty.

9 (f) The term "veteran" shall mean an individual who served
10 on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, Reserves or
11 National Guard and was honorably discharged.

12 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

13 Section 5.4. (a) Active duty military personnel shall
14 receive a one hundred per centum reduction in the electronic
15 toll rate for the use of the turnpike.

16 (b) Veterans shall receive a fifty per centum reduction in
17 the electronic toll rate for the use of the turnpike.

18 (c) To qualify for the reduced toll rate, active duty
19 military personnel and veterans must:

20 (1) Be a resident of this Commonwealth.

21 (2) Have a valid electronic transponder issued by the
22 commission.

23 (3) Submit a commission-approved application for approval of
24 the toll reduction.

25 (4) Submit documentation proving either an active duty
26 status or veteran status in a form approved by the commission.

27 (5) Sign a statement submitting that the veteran will not be
28 involved in fraudulent activities as defined by the commission.

29 A violation of the statement by the active duty military
30 personnel or veteran may result in loss of electronic

1 transponder privileges.

2 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.