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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 812 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY MURT, V. BROWN, BULLOCK, FREEMAN, NEILSON AND  
ROZZI, MARCH 10, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, MARCH 10, 2017

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AN ACT

1 Providing for the establishment of the Family Caregiver Support  
2 Advisory Board within the Department of Human Services and  
3 for its powers and duties.

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

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Family  
8 Caregiver Support Advisory Board Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
11 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Board." The Family Caregiver Support Advisory Board.

14 "Department." The Department of Human Services of the  
15 Commonwealth.

16 Section 3. Family Caregiver Support Advisory Board.

17 (a) Establishment.--The department shall establish a Family  
18 Caregiver Support Advisory Board within the department.

1 (b) Membership.--The board shall consist of nine volunteer  
2 members selected by the department from eligible applicants. The  
3 department shall issue a notice to be published in the  
4 Pennsylvania Bulletin and shall post on its publicly accessible  
5 Internet website the procedure for individuals to apply as a  
6 volunteer to be selected for appointment to the board.

7 (c) Term of office.--

8 (1) A member of the board shall serve for a four-year  
9 term, subject to removal by the department. The first members  
10 of the board shall serve as follows:

11 (i) Three members shall have a term ending January  
12 1, 2018.

13 (ii) Three members shall have a term ending January  
14 1, 2019.

15 (iii) Three members shall have a term ending January  
16 1, 2020.

17 (2) Before the expiration of the term of a member, the  
18 department shall appoint a successor whose term shall begin  
19 on the following July 1.

20 (3) A member shall be eligible for reappointment.

21 (4) If there is a vacancy of any member's office, the  
22 department shall make an appointment to become immediately  
23 effective for the unexpired term.

24 (5) A member of the board shall receive no reimbursement  
25 for any expenses incurred in the performance of official  
26 duties of the board.

27 (d) Eligibility.--In order to qualify for membership on the  
28 board, the individual must be a resident of this Commonwealth  
29 and be well-informed about the needs of family caregivers.

30 (e) Officers.--The board shall select one of its members as

1 chairperson and another as vice chairperson for the terms and  
2 with the duties and powers as necessary for the performance of  
3 the functions as the board determines.

4 (f) Quorum.--A majority of the members of the board shall  
5 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

6 (g) Meetings.--The board shall meet at least once every  
7 three months as determined by the board. The board may also meet  
8 at other times as specified by the call of the chairperson or of  
9 a majority of the members of the board.

10 Section 4. Powers and duties.

11 The board shall advise the department on the needs of family  
12 caregivers in programs administered by the department.

13 Section 5. Regulations.

14 The department shall promulgate rules and regulations  
15 necessary to administer this act.

16 Section 6. Effective date.

17 This act shall take effect in 60 days.