

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2208 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY YOUNGBLOOD, APRIL 2, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 2, 2018

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
 2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
 3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
 4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
 5 laws relating thereto," in professional employees, providing  
 6 for death benefit for professional employees killed in the  
 7 line of duty.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known  
 11 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a  
 12 section to read:

13 Section 1156. Death Benefit for Professional Employes Killed  
 14 in the Line of Duty.--(a) In addition to any other benefit that  
 15 a professional employe or a professional employe's family is  
 16 eligible to receive, the State Treasurer shall pay five hundred  
 17 thousand dollars (\$500,000) to the family of a professional  
 18 employe killed in the line of duty.

19 (b) A family member who is responsible for the professional  
 20 employe's death shall not be eligible to receive the death  
 21 benefit.

1 (c) The Office of Attorney General shall review the records  
2 relating to a professional employe's death to determine whether  
3 the professional employe was killed in the line of duty. The  
4 Office of Attorney General shall render a determination within  
5 thirty (30) days of the professional employe's death.

6 (d) If the Office of Attorney General determines that a  
7 professional employe was killed in the line of duty, the Office  
8 of Attorney General shall notify the Secretary of Education of  
9 its recommendation and submit a request to the State Treasurer  
10 for payment of the death benefit.

11 (e) The Commonwealth, its agencies and employes shall not be  
12 held liable for the improper payment of a death benefit as  
13 provided in this section.

14 (f) As used in this section:

15 (1) The term "family" shall include the following sequence  
16 of individuals:

17 (i) the surviving spouse of a professional employe;

18 (ii) if there is no surviving spouse, a surviving dependent  
19 child or children of the professional employe, including  
20 dependent stepchildren whose expenses of daily living were paid  
21 for by the decedent at the time of death;

22 (iii) if there is no surviving dependent child, the  
23 surviving adult child or children of a professional employe; or

24 (iv) if there is no surviving adult child, the surviving  
25 parents of a professional employe.

26 (2) The term "killed in the line of duty" shall mean death  
27 of a professional employe who was killed as a result of violence  
28 while working in a professional capacity.

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.