

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1673 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY FARRY, BARRAR, DIGIROLAMO, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHMITT,
MEHAFFIE, KULIK, LONGIETTI, HELM, STAATS, ULLMAN, MILLARD,
THOMAS, POLINCHOCK, O'MARA, READSHAW, DUNBAR, YOUNGBLOOD,
CAUSER, HILL-EVANS, GALLOWAY, BROWN, CIRESI, SAINATO,
D. MILLER, DeLUCA, KIRKLAND, T. DAVIS, FREEMAN, STRUZZI,
QUINN, KORTZ, WARNER, DOWLING, WEBSTER, MULLINS, DELLOSO AND
TOMLINSON, JUNE 24, 2019

SENATOR BROWNE, APPROPRIATIONS, IN SENATE, RE-REPORTED AS
AMENDED, OCTOBER 20, 2020

AN ACT

1 ~~Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania~~ <--
2 ~~Consolidated Statutes, in volunteer firefighters, further~~
3 ~~providing for definitions, for statement of purpose, for~~
4 ~~funds and for audits.~~

5 AMENDING TITLE 35 (HEALTH AND SAFETY) OF THE PENNSYLVANIA <--
6 CONSOLIDATED STATUTES, IN COMMONWEALTH SERVICES, FURTHER
7 PROVIDING FOR SCOPE OF SUBCHAPTER, FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS
8 AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSE, FOR DEFINITIONS, FOR ASSISTANCE
9 TO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES, AMBULANCE SERVICE AND RESCUE
10 SQUADS, FOR VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND, FOR POWERS AND
11 DUTIES OF OFFICE, FOR DISPOSITION AND USE OF PROCEEDS, FOR
12 VOLUNTEER COMPANY LOAN SINKING FUND AND INVESTMENTS, FOR
13 REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS FOR PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, FOR
14 TEMPORARY FINANCING AUTHORIZATION, FOR AUTHORIZATION OF
15 CONTRACTS, REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE AND AMOUNT AND FOR
16 REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE AND AMOUNT, PROVIDING FOR REFERENDUM
17 TO EXPAND LOAN ASSISTANCE AND FOR ANNUAL REPORT AND
18 DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR
19 DEFINITIONS AND FOR STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER, PROVIDING FOR
20 CURRICULUM AND TRAINING AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR
21 PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY, FOR PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEER
22 LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND FOR FIRE SAFETY ADVISORY
23 COMMITTEE; IN VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR
24 DEFINITIONS, FOR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, FOR FUNDS AND FOR
25 AUDITS AND PROVIDING FOR FIRE RELIEF FORMULA STUDY; IN GRANTS
26 TO FIRE COMPANIES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES,

1 FURTHER PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS, FOR ESTABLISHMENT, FOR
2 PUBLICATION AND NOTICE, FOR AWARD OF GRANTS, FOR
3 CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVE, FOR ESTABLISHMENT, FOR PUBLICATION
4 AND NOTICE AND FOR AWARD OF GRANTS, PROVIDING FOR
5 CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVE, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR FIRE COMPANY
6 GRANT PROGRAM, FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY GRANT
7 PROGRAM, FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING, FOR ALLOCATION OF
8 APPROPRIATED FUNDS, FOR EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY AND FOR
9 SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND PROVIDING FOR ANNUAL REPORTS; IN
10 INCENTIVES FOR MUNICIPAL VOLUNTEERS OF FIRE COMPANIES AND
11 NONPROFIT EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCIES, FURTHER
12 PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS, FOR PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION, FOR
13 REAL PROPERTY TAX CREDIT AND FOR REJECTION AND APPEAL; AND
14 MAKING EDITORIAL CHANGES.

15 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
16 hereby enacts as follows:

17 ~~Section 1. Section 7412 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania~~ <--
18 ~~Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding definitions to read:~~
19 ~~§ 7412. Definitions.~~

20 ~~The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter~~
21 ~~shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the~~
22 ~~context clearly indicates otherwise:~~

23 ~~"Commissioner." The State Fire Commissioner.~~

24 ~~* * *~~

25 ~~"Length of service award program." A system established by a~~
26 ~~volunteer fire company or volunteer firefighters' relief~~
27 ~~association to provide tax deferred income benefits to active~~
28 ~~volunteer members of a fire service.~~

29 ~~"Volunteer fire company." As defined in section 7802~~
30 ~~(relating to definitions).~~

31 ~~* * *~~

32 ~~Section 2. Section 7413 introductory paragraph and (4) of~~
33 ~~Title 35 are amended and the section is amended by adding a~~
34 ~~paragraph to read:~~

35 ~~§ 7413. Statement of purpose.~~

36 ~~The purpose of this subchapter is to encourage individuals to~~
37 ~~take part in the fire service as volunteer firefighters by~~

1 ~~establishing criteria and standards for orderly administration~~
2 ~~and conduct of affairs of firefighters' relief associations to~~
3 ~~ensure, as far as circumstances will reasonably permit, that~~
4 ~~funds shall be available for the assistance to and protection of~~
5 ~~volunteer firefighters and their heirs in order to provide:~~

6 * * *

7 ~~(4) Safeguards for preserving life, health and safety of~~
8 ~~volunteer firefighters to ensure their availability to~~
9 ~~participate in the fire service, including necessary~~
10 ~~training.~~

11 * * *

12 ~~(6.1) Financial assistance to recruit and retain~~
13 ~~volunteer firefighters.~~

14 * * *

15 ~~Section 3. Section 7416(a) and (f) (11) of Title 35 are~~
16 ~~amended and subsection (f) is amended by adding paragraphs to~~
17 ~~read:~~

18 ~~§ 7416. Funds.~~

19 ~~(a) General rule. A volunteer firefighters' relief~~
20 ~~association may solicit and receive gifts and contributions from~~
21 ~~any source, including municipal corporations, but shall not have~~
22 ~~the right to receive any portion of the money distributed to~~
23 ~~political subdivisions of this Commonwealth under Chapter 7 of~~
24 ~~the act of December 18, 1984 (P.L.1005, No.205), known as the~~
25 ~~Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act, unless~~
26 ~~and until the governing body of at least one political~~
27 ~~subdivision shall have certified to the Auditor General that the~~
28 ~~association is a bona fide volunteer firefighters' relief~~
29 ~~association, affiliated with a fire company which affords~~
30 ~~protection against fire to all or a portion of the political~~

1 ~~subdivision. This section shall include any non fire company~~
2 ~~affiliated relief association in existence and receiving funds~~
3 ~~as provided for under this subchapter prior to November 23,~~
4 ~~2010.~~

5 * * *

6 ~~(f) Use. Funds of any volunteer firefighters' relief~~
7 ~~association may be spent:~~

8 * * *

9 ~~(11) To purchase safeguards for preserving life, health~~
10 ~~and safety of volunteer firefighters to ensure their~~
11 ~~availability to participate in the volunteer fire service,~~
12 ~~including necessary training.~~

13 * * *

14 ~~(18) To provide financial assistance for activities and~~
15 ~~material needed to aid in the recruitment and retention of~~
16 ~~volunteer firefighters.~~

17 ~~(19) To establish and pay for length of service award~~
18 ~~programs.~~

19 Section 4. ~~Section 7418 of Title 35 is amended to read:~~

20 ~~§ 7418. Audits.~~

21 ~~(a) General rule.~~

22 ~~(1) The Office of Auditor General shall have the power~~
23 ~~and its duty shall be to audit the accounts and records of~~
24 ~~every volunteer firefighters' relief association receiving~~
25 ~~money under Chapter 7 of the act of December 18, 1984~~
26 ~~(P.L.1005, No.205), known as the Municipal Pension Plan~~
27 ~~Funding Standard and Recovery Act, as far as may be necessary~~
28 ~~to satisfy the Auditor General that the money received was or~~
29 ~~is being expended for no purpose other than that authorized~~
30 ~~by this subchapter. Copies of all audits shall be furnished~~

1 ~~to the Governor.~~

2 ~~(2) The commissioner, in consultation with the fire~~
3 ~~safety advisory committee, shall establish and publish~~
4 ~~annually, on the Office of the State Fire Commissioner's~~
5 ~~publicly accessible Internet website, eligible uses of the~~
6 ~~money in accordance with this subchapter.~~

7 ~~(3) The commissioner may receive inquiries from the fire~~
8 ~~services on eligible uses of money and, in consultation with~~
9 ~~the Fire Safety Advisory Committee, make a determination on~~
10 ~~the eligible use of money on the equipment or service that is~~
11 ~~the subject of the inquiry.~~

12 ~~(4) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the commissioner~~
13 ~~shall maintain authority relating to the eligible uses of~~
14 ~~money received.~~

15 ~~(b) Findings. If the Auditor General finds that [any] money~~
16 ~~received by a volunteer firefighters' relief association has~~
17 ~~been expended for a purpose other than one authorized by this~~
18 ~~subchapter, the Auditor General shall immediately notify the~~
19 ~~Governor and the commissioner and shall decline to approve~~
20 ~~further requisitions calling for payment to the volunteer~~
21 ~~firefighters' relief association until the improperly expended~~
22 ~~amount has been reimbursed to the relief association fund.~~

23 ~~Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.~~

24 SECTION 1. THE HEADING OF SUBCHAPTER E OF CHAPTER 73 OF <--
25 TITLE 35 OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSOLIDATED STATUTES IS AMENDED TO
26 READ:

27 SUBCHAPTER E

28 [VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, AMBULANCE SERVICE

29 AND RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE]

30 FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

1 ORGANIZATIONS' DUTIES," AND SECTION 7378.1(5) (RELATING TO
2 REFERENDUM FOR ADDITIONAL INDEBTEDNESS), AS WELL AS TO IMPLEMENT
3 IN PART SECTION 31.3 OF THE ACT OF JUNE 29, 2002 (P.L.559,
4 NO.89), ENTITLED "AN ACT AMENDING THE ACT OF MARCH 4, 1971
5 (P.L.6, NO.2), ENTITLED 'AN ACT RELATING TO TAX REFORM AND STATE
6 TAXATION BY CODIFYING AND ENUMERATING CERTAIN SUBJECTS OF
7 TAXATION AND IMPOSING TAXES THEREON; PROVIDING PROCEDURES FOR
8 THE PAYMENT, COLLECTION, ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT THEREOF;
9 PROVIDING FOR TAX CREDITS IN CERTAIN CASES; CONFERRING POWERS
10 AND IMPOSING DUTIES UPON THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, CERTAIN
11 EMPLOYERS, FIDUCIARIES, INDIVIDUALS, PERSONS, CORPORATIONS AND
12 OTHER ENTITIES; PRESCRIBING CRIMES, OFFENSES AND PENALTIES,'
13 FURTHER PROVIDING, IN SALES AND USE TAX, FOR DEFINITIONS, FOR
14 IMPOSITION, FOR EXCLUSIONS, FOR LICENSES, FOR COLLECTION, FOR
15 BULK AND AUCTION SALES AND FOR CRIMES; PROVIDING, IN LOCAL TAX
16 SITUS, FOR SITUS OF MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES; FURTHER
17 PROVIDING, IN PERSONAL INCOME TAX, FOR DEFINITIONS, FOR CLASSES
18 OF INCOME, FOR SPECIAL TAX PROVISIONS FOR POVERTY, FOR
19 CONTRIBUTIONS, FOR BULK AND AUCTION SALES AND TRANSFERS; IN
20 CORPORATE NET INCOME TAX, FOR DEFINITIONS, FOR IMPOSITION AND
21 FOR INTEREST IN UNINCORPORATED ENTITIES; AND IN CAPITAL STOCK
22 AND FRANCHISE TAX, FOR DEFINITIONS, FOR IMPOSITION, FOR DEPOSIT
23 OF PROCEEDS, FOR INTEREST IN UNINCORPORATED ENTITIES AND FOR
24 APPLICABILITY AND EXPIRATION; ESTABLISHING REVENUE-NEUTRAL
25 RECONCILIATION IN UTILITIES GROSS RECEIPTS TAX; PROVIDING, IN
26 PUBLIC UTILITY REALTY TAX AND FOR SURCHARGE; FURTHER PROVIDING,
27 IN REALTY TRANSFER TAX, FOR FURNISHING STAMPS; IN CIGARETTE TAX,
28 FOR INCIDENCE AND RATE, FOR FLOOR TAX, FOR COMMISSIONS ON SALES
29 AND FOR DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN FUNDS; IN RESEARCH AND
30 DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT, FOR TIME LIMITATIONS AND FOR

1 TERMINATION; IN INHERITANCE TAX, FOR DEFINITIONS, FOR TRANSFERS
2 NOT SUBJECT TO TAX AND FOR ESTATE TAX AND FOR ESTATE TAX
3 RETURNS; PROVIDING FOR IMMEDIATE ASSESSMENT, SETTLEMENT OR
4 COLLECTION AND FOR DEPRECIATION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY IN CITIES OF
5 THE FIRST CLASS; AND MAKING REPEALS," BY PROVIDING FOR LOANS TO
6 VOLUNTEER FIRE, AMBULANCE AND RESCUE COMPANIES TO PROTECT THE
7 LIVES AND PROPERTY OF THE CITIZENS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH PURSUANT
8 TO AND TO EXECUTE THE ABOVE FAVORABLE REFERENDA IN SUBSECTION
9 (A).] THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS DETERMINED THAT [VOLUNTEER] FIRE
10 COMPANIES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES ARE MOST IN
11 NEED OF LOANS [AND THEREFORE INTENDS THAT, TO THE EXTENT
12 POSSIBLE, A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN
13 FUND BE USED TO PROVIDE LOANS TO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES AND
14 THAT THE BALANCE BE ALLOCATED TO PROVIDE LOANS TO VOLUNTEER
15 AMBULANCE AND VOLUNTEER RESCUE COMPANIES]. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
16 INTENDS THAT THE LOANS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER BE USED TO
17 REPLACE OUTMODED OR UNSAFE EQUIPMENT AND BUILDINGS OF
18 [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANIES AND [THAT THE LOANS BE PROVIDED TO
19 VOLUNTEER COMPANIES WHICH ARE EXPERIENCING A NEED FOR EQUIPMENT
20 OR FACILITIES] EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES TO MEET AN
21 INCREASING DEMAND FOR A HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE IN THE
22 COMMUNITIES WHICH THEY SERVE.

23 SECTION 3. THE DEFINITION OF "VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND"
24 IN SECTION 7363 OF TITLE 35 IS AMENDED AND THE SECTION IS
25 AMENDED BY ADDING DEFINITIONS TO READ:

26 § 7363. DEFINITIONS.

27 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS SUBCHAPTER
28 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
29 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

30 * * *

1 "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY" OR "EMS COMPANY." A
2 CAREER, NONPROFIT OR VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
3 COMPANY.

4 * * *

5 "FIRE COMPANY." A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY.

6 "FUND." THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN <--
7 ASSISTANCE FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 7365 (RELATING TO FIRE <--
8 AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE FUND). <--

9 "MUNICIPALITY." A COUNTY, CITY, BOROUGH, INCORPORATED TOWN
10 OR TOWNSHIP.

11 * * *

12 ["VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND." THE FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER
13 SECTION 7365 (RELATING TO VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND).]

14 SECTION 4. SECTIONS 7364, 7365, 7366(A)(2) AND (3.1) AND (B)
15 (2), 7371, 7374, 7376, 7378(D), 7378.2 AND 7378.3 OF TITLE 35
16 ARE AMENDED TO READ:

17 § 7364. ASSISTANCE TO [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANIES[, AMBULANCE
18 SERVICE AND RESCUE SQUADS] AND EMS COMPANIES.

19 (A) GENERAL RULE.--THE OFFICE IS AUTHORIZED, UPON
20 APPLICATION OF ANY [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, VOLUNTEER
21 AMBULANCE SERVICE OR VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY, TO
22 MAKE LOANS FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

23 (1) ESTABLISHING OR MODERNIZING FACILITIES THAT HOUSE
24 FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCE OR RESCUE VEHICLES. THE
25 AMOUNT OF A LOAN FOR ESTABLISHING OR MODERNIZING FACILITIES
26 MADE TO ANY ONE [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, AMBULANCE SERVICE
27 OR RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY SHALL NOT EXCEED 50% OF THE
28 TOTAL COST OF THE FACILITIES OR MODERNIZATION OR [\$400,000]
29 \$450,000, WHICHEVER IS LESS, AND A NOTARIZED FINANCIAL
30 STATEMENT FILED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) SHALL SHOW THAT THE

1 APPLICANT HAS AVAILABLE 20% OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE
2 FACILITIES IN UNOBLIGATED FUNDS. PROCEEDS OF THE LOAN SHALL
3 BE USED ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF STRUCTURE OR LAND ACQUISITION OR
4 RENOVATION OR CONSTRUCTION AND SHALL NOT BE USED FOR PAYMENT
5 OF FEES FOR DESIGN, PLANNING, PREPARATION OF APPLICATIONS OR
6 ANY OTHER COST NOT DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO STRUCTURE OR LAND
7 ACQUISITION OR RENOVATION OR CONSTRUCTION.

8 (2) PURCHASING FIREFIGHTING APPARATUS, AMBULANCES OR
9 RESCUE VEHICLES. THE AMOUNT OF A LOAN MADE FOR PURCHASING
10 FIREFIGHTING APPARATUS TO ANY ONE [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY
11 SHALL NOT EXCEED [\$200,000] \$250,000 FOR ANY SINGLE
12 FIREFIGHTING APPARATUS EQUIPMENT OR UTILITY OR SPECIAL
13 SERVICE VEHICLE OR HEAVY DUTY RESCUE VEHICLE AS DEFINED BY
14 REGULATION OR GUIDELINE, OR 50% OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE
15 EQUIPMENT OR VEHICLE, WHICHEVER IS LESS, EXCEPT FOR LOANS FOR
16 AERIAL APPARATUS AS DEFINED BY REGULATION OR GUIDELINE, WHICH
17 SHALL NOT EXCEED [\$300,000] \$350,000. THE AMOUNT OF A LOAN
18 MADE TO ANY ONE [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, AMBULANCE SERVICE
19 OR RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY FOR ANY AMBULANCE OR LIGHT
20 DUTY RESCUE VEHICLE AS DEFINED BY REGULATION OR GUIDELINE
21 SHALL NOT EXCEED [\$100,000] \$125,000 AND FOR A WATERCRAFT
22 RESCUE VEHICLE SHALL NOT EXCEED [\$30,000] \$35,000 OR 50% OF
23 THE COST OF THE AMBULANCE OR RESCUE VEHICLE, WHICHEVER IS
24 LESS, AND A NOTARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FILED UNDER
25 SUBSECTION (C) SHALL SHOW THAT THE APPLICANT HAS AVAILABLE
26 20% OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE VEHICLE IN UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.

27 (3) PURCHASING PROTECTIVE, ACCESSORY OR COMMUNICATION
28 EQUIPMENT. NO [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, AMBULANCE SERVICE OR
29 RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY SHALL RECEIVE A LOAN FOR
30 PROTECTIVE, ACCESSORY OR COMMUNICATIVE EQUIPMENT MORE THAN

1 ONCE IN ANY FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. EACH [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[,
2 AMBULANCE SERVICE OR RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY MAY APPLY
3 FOR A LOAN FOR A MOBILE AND PORTABLE RADIO UNIT FOR EACH
4 EXISTING SERVICEABLE APPARATUS EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCE OR RESCUE
5 VEHICLE. RADIO EQUIPMENT OBTAINED THROUGH LOANS UNDER THIS
6 SUBCHAPTER SHALL BE EQUIPPED WITH A FREQUENCY OR FREQUENCIES
7 LICENSED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR
8 FIREFIGHTING OR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PURPOSES. A NOTARIZED
9 FINANCIAL STATEMENT SHALL BE FILED AND LOANS UNDER THIS
10 SUBCHAPTER FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROTECTIVE, ACCESSORY OR
11 COMMUNICATIVE EQUIPMENT SHALL NOT EXCEED [\$20,000] \$25,000.

12 (4) REFINANCING DEBT INCURRED OR CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO
13 AFTER NOVEMBER 4, 1975, AND USED FOR THE PURCHASE OF
14 APPARATUS EQUIPMENT OR FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR MODERNIZATION
15 OF FACILITIES OR FOR MODIFICATION OF APPARATUS EQUIPMENT IN
16 ORDER TO COMPLY WITH NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
17 STANDARDS.

18 (5) REPAIR OR REHABILITATION OF APPARATUS EQUIPMENT.
19 WHERE IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT EXISTING APPARATUS
20 EQUIPMENT NO LONGER MEETS THE STANDARDS OF THE NATIONAL FIRE
21 PROTECTION ASSOCIATION AND THE REPAIR OR REHABILITATION OF
22 SUCH EQUIPMENT WILL BRING IT IN COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL FIRE
23 PROTECTION ASSOCIATION STANDARDS, LOANS FOR THE REPAIR OR
24 REHABILITATION FOR A SINGLE APPARATUS EQUIPMENT SHALL BE FOR
25 AT LEAST [\$2,000] \$3,000 BUT SHALL NOT EXCEED THE LESSER OF
26 [\$70,000] \$80,000 OR 80% OF THE TOTAL COST OF REPAIR OR
27 REHABILITATION.

28 (6) PURCHASING OF USED FIREFIGHTING APPARATUS,
29 EQUIPMENT, USED AMBULANCES, USED RESCUE VEHICLES, USED
30 COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, USED ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT OR USED

1 PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT, EXCEPT THAT THE USED VEHICLES AND
2 EQUIPMENT SHALL MEET THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
3 (NFPA) STANDARDS AND LOANS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A USED SINGLE
4 APPARATUS EQUIPMENT SHALL NOT EXCEED [\$120,000] \$200,000 OR
5 80% OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE EQUIPMENT, WHICHEVER IS LESS.

6 [(7) PURCHASING PENNSYLVANIA FIRE INFORMATION REPORTING
7 SYSTEM (PENNFIRS) HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE. A VOLUNTEER FIRE
8 COMPANY SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY ONE TIME ONLY FOR A LOAN
9 OF NOT MORE THAN \$4,000 OR 75% OF THE COST OF SUCH
10 ACQUISITION, WHICHEVER IS LESS, AND WITH A TERM NOT EXCEEDING
11 FIVE YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING THE HARDWARE AND
12 SOFTWARE NECESSARY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE
13 INFORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM. THE OFFICE SHALL DEVELOP, AT
14 ITS DISCRETION, SUCH PROCEDURES AND FORMS AS IT MAY DEEM
15 NECESSARY TO FACILITATE LOANS FOR PENNFIRS HARDWARE AND
16 SOFTWARE. THE LOANS SHALL BE SECURED AS REQUIRED BY LAW.]

17 (A.1) LIMITATION.--LOANS UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER MAY BE MADE
18 FOR ANY OF THE PURPOSES OF SUBSECTION (A) UNDERTAKEN BY A
19 [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE AND
20 VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 4,
21 1975.

22 (B) LOANS.--LOANS MADE BY THE OFFICE IN THE AMOUNT OF
23 [\$30,000] \$50,000 OR LESS SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN
24 TEN YEARS. LOANS IN EXCESS OF [\$30,000] \$50,000 BUT NOT IN
25 EXCESS OF [\$100,000] \$300,000 SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE
26 THAN 15 YEARS. THE PAYBACK PERIOD OF ANY LOAN IN EXCESS OF
27 [\$100,000, EXCEPT A LOAN FOR ESTABLISHING OR MODERNIZING
28 FACILITIES,] \$300,000 SHALL NOT EXCEED 20 YEARS. [THE PAYBACK
29 PERIOD FOR ANY LOAN IN EXCESS OF \$200,000 FOR ESTABLISHING OR
30 MODERNIZING FACILITIES SHALL NOT EXCEED 20 YEARS.] LOANS SHALL

1 BE SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST AT 2% PER YEAR AND SHALL
2 BE SUBJECT TO SUCH SECURITY AS SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE
3 COMMISSIONER. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF INTEREST EARNED BY THE
4 INVESTMENT OR REINVESTMENT OF ALL OR ANY PART OF THE PRINCIPAL
5 OF ANY LOAN SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE AND TRANSFERRED TO
6 THE [VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL <--
7 SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE FUND AND SHALL NOT BE CREDITED AS <--
8 PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL OR INTEREST ON THE LOAN. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED
9 IN SUBSECTION (A) (5) AND (7), THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF ANY LOAN
10 SHALL BE [~~\$10,000~~] \$25,000.

11 (B.1) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.--BEGINNING ONE YEAR AFTER THE
12 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION AND BIANNUALLY THEREAFTER, ALL
13 LOAN LIMITS UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCREASE AT THE RATE OF
14 INFLATION AS OUTLINED IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR ALL URBAN
15 CONSUMERS FOR THE PHILADELPHIA-CAMDEN-WILMINGTON, PA-NJ-DE-MD
16 AREA FOR THE MOST RECENT 12-MONTH PERIOD FOR WHICH THE FIGURES
17 HAVE BEEN REPORTED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR,
18 BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS. IF THE RATE OF INFLATION DOES NOT
19 INCREASE, ALL LOAN LIMITS SHALL REMAIN THE SAME AS THEY WERE FOR
20 THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THE OFFICE SHALL TRANSMIT NOTICE OF LOAN
21 LIMIT INCREASES TO THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU FOR
22 PUBLICATION IN THE PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN.

23 (C) APPLICATIONS.--EVERY APPLICATION FOR A LOAN SHALL BE
24 ACCOMPANIED BY A NOTARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE
25 [~~VOLUNTEER~~] FIRE COMPANY[, ~~AMBULANCE SERVICE OR RESCUE SQUAD~~] OR
26 EMS COMPANY AND A FINANCIAL PLAN TO SHOW THE AMOUNT OF ASSETS
27 AND PROJECTED REVENUES FOR THE REPAYMENT OF THE LOAN, ANY OTHER
28 OBLIGATIONS OF THE [~~VOLUNTEER~~] FIRE COMPANY OR EMS COMPANY AND
29 OPERATING EXPENSES OVER THE PERIOD OF THE LOAN. EVERY
30 APPLICATION SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY EVIDENCE SUFFICIENT TO SHOW

1 THAT ALL COSTS EXCEPT THE AMOUNT OF THE LOAN HAVE BEEN OBTAINED
2 BY ASSETS OF THE [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY OR EMS COMPANY AND
3 OTHER LOANS OR SOURCES OF REVENUE. IF A [VOLUNTEER] FIRE
4 COMPANY[, AMBULANCE SERVICE OR RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY IS
5 UNABLE TO MEET THE 20% REQUIREMENT OF SUBSECTION (A), THEN A
6 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION WHICH IS SERVED BY THE [VOLUNTEER] FIRE
7 COMPANY OR EMS COMPANY MAY PLEDGE ITS CREDIT IN THE AMOUNT OF
8 FUNDS NECESSARY TO SATISFY THE 20% REQUIREMENT AND, IF IT DOES
9 SO, SHALL COSIGN THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY THE [VOLUNTEER]
10 FIRE COMPANY OR EMS COMPANY.

11 (C.1) APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE.--THE OFFICE SHALL
12 ESTABLISH AN APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE TO REVIEW LOAN
13 APPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON LOAN APPLICATIONS UNDER THIS
14 SECTION. THE APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE SHALL REGULARLY MEET
15 AT LEAST QUARTERLY TO REVIEW LOAN APPLICATIONS AND MAKE
16 RECOMMENDATIONS ON LOAN APPLICATIONS TO THE OFFICE. THE
17 APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE SHALL BE CHAIRED BY THE
18 COMMISSIONER OR THE COMMISSIONER'S DESIGNEE AND INCLUDE THE
19 FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

20 (1) THE CHAIR OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
21 PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE OR THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE.

22 (2) THE MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
23 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE OR THE
24 MINORITY CHAIR'S DESIGNEE.

25 (3) THE CHAIR OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
26 PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OR
27 THE CHAIR'S DESIGNEE.

28 (4) THE MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
29 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF
30 REPRESENTATIVES OR THE MINORITY CHAIR'S DESIGNEE.

1 (5) THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY SERVICES IN
2 THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OR THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNEE.

3 (6) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE AND
4 EMERGENCY SERVICES INSTITUTE.

5 (7) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF THE
6 STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

7 (8) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION OF
8 PENNSYLVANIA.

9 (9) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY
10 HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL.

11 (D) USE.--LOANS SHALL BE USED FOR THE ACQUISITION BY
12 [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANIES OR EMS COMPANIES OF NEW OR USED
13 APPARATUS EQUIPMENT, NEW OR USED AMBULANCES, NEW OR USED RESCUE
14 VEHICLES, NEW OR USED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, NEW OR USED
15 ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT OR NEW OR USED PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT OR FOR
16 THE ACQUISITION AND RENOVATION OF EXISTING STRUCTURES TO HOUSE
17 FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCE OR RESCUE VEHICLES OR FOR THE
18 CONSTRUCTION OR MODERNIZATION OF FACILITIES AND, EXCEPT AS
19 PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (A) (4), SHALL NOT BE USED FOR OPERATING
20 EXPENSES OR FOR THE REFINANCING OF RENOVATED STRUCTURES,
21 REFINANCING OF CONSTRUCTION OR MODERNIZATION OF FACILITIES,
22 APPARATUS EQUIPMENT, COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT, ACCESSORY
23 EQUIPMENT, NOR, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (A) (4), SHALL
24 BE MADE OR USED TO REDUCE ANY DEBT OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS ISSUED
25 PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBCHAPTER.

26 (E) PAYMENT.--LOANS MADE BY THE OFFICE SHALL BE PAID FROM
27 THE [VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FUND TO THE [VOLUNTEER] FIRE
28 COMPANIES [, AMBULANCE SERVICES AND RESCUE SQUADS] AND EMS
29 COMPANIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES DEVELOPED
30 BY THE OFFICE.

1 (F) DEPOSIT.--ALL PAYMENTS OF INTEREST ON THE LOANS AND THE
2 PRINCIPAL THEREOF SHALL BE DEPOSITED BY THE OFFICE IN THE
3 [VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FUND.

4 (G) ELIGIBILITY.--A [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, AMBULANCE
5 SERVICE AND RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A
6 LOAN REGARDLESS OF LEGAL OWNERSHIP IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY ANY
7 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF ANY FACILITIES OR APPARATUS EQUIPMENT
8 USED BY THE [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE AND
9 VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY. ANY EQUIPMENT OR
10 FACILITIES FINANCED MAY BE TRANSFERRED TO A POLITICAL
11 SUBDIVISION SERVED BY THE [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, VOLUNTEER
12 AMBULANCE SERVICE OR VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY
13 SUBJECT TO SUCH SECURITY AS SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE
14 COMMISSIONER.

15 (H) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.--NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF
16 THIS SECTION TO THE CONTRARY, THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF ANY LOAN TO
17 A [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANY[, VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE AND
18 VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD] OR EMS COMPANY FOR THE PURCHASE OF
19 FIREFIGHTING APPARATUS, AMBULANCES OR RESCUE VEHICLES
20 MANUFACTURED OR ASSEMBLED IN THIS COMMONWEALTH, MAY EXCEED THE
21 LOAN LIMITS SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION BY \$20,000.

22 (I) AGGREGATION OF LOANS.--

23 (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2), A FIRE COMPANY[, VOLUNTEER
24 RESCUE SERVICE OR VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE] OR EMS COMPANY
25 SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR MORE THAN THREE LOANS AT ONE TIME.

26 (2) IF MORE THAN ONE FIRE COMPANY[, VOLUNTEER RESCUE
27 SERVICE OR VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE] OR EMS COMPANY MERGE
28 OR CONSOLIDATE INTO A SINGLE ENTITY, AS DETERMINED BY THE
29 COMMISSIONER, THE ENTITY SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR NOT MORE THAN
30 TEN LOANS AT ONE TIME FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS FROM THE DATE

1 OF THE MERGER OR CONSOLIDATION.

2 § 7365. [VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FIRE AND EMERGENCY <--
3 MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE FUND. <--

4 (A) GENERAL RULE.--THERE IS CREATED A SPECIAL FUND IN THE
5 TREASURY DEPARTMENT TO BE KNOWN AS THE [VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN
6 FUND] FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE FUND <--
7 TO WHICH SHALL BE CREDITED ALL APPROPRIATIONS MADE BY THE
8 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OTHER THAN APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENSES OF
9 ADMINISTERING THIS SUBCHAPTER OR GRANTS FROM OTHER SOURCES TO
10 THE OFFICE AS WELL AS REPAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON
11 LOANS MADE UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER.

12 (B) REQUISITION.--UPON APPROVAL OF THE LOAN, THE
13 COMMISSIONER SHALL ROUTINELY REQUISITION FROM THE [VOLUNTEER
14 COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FUND SUCH AMOUNTS AS SHALL BE ALLOCATED BY
15 THE OFFICE FOR LOANS TO [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANIES OR EMS
16 COMPANIES. WHEN AND AS THE AMOUNTS SO ALLOCATED AS LOANS TO
17 [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANIES OR EMS COMPANIES ARE REPAYED PURSUANT
18 TO THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENTS MADE AND ENTERED INTO WITH THE
19 OFFICE, THE OFFICE SHALL PAY SUCH AMOUNTS INTO THE [VOLUNTEER
20 COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FUND, IT BEING THE INTENT OF THIS
21 SUBCHAPTER THAT THE [VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FUND SHALL
22 OPERATE AS A REVOLVING FUND WHEREBY ALL APPROPRIATIONS AND
23 PAYMENTS MADE THERETO MAY BE APPLIED AND REAPPLIED TO THE
24 PURPOSES OF THIS SUBCHAPTER.

25 (C) ADMINISTRATION.--[EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE STATE FIRE
26 COMMISSIONER MAY USE AN AMOUNT UP TO \$250,000 FROM THE VOLUNTEER
27 COMPANIES LOAN FUND FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE COST OF IMPLEMENTING
28 THE LOAN PROGRAM UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER.] THE COMMISSIONER MAY
29 USE UP TO THE 2% IN INTEREST PAYMENTS NOT MORE THAN \$500,000 UP <--
30 TO 50% OF THE INTEREST PAYMENTS, BUT NOT IN EXCESS OF \$600,000,

1 FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.

2 § 7366. POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICE.

3 (A) MANDATORY.--THE OFFICE HAS THE FOLLOWING DUTIES:

4 * * *

5 (2) TO ACCEPT GRANTS FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND ANY
6 OTHER INDIVIDUAL, AGENCY OR GOVERNMENT FOR USE IN THE
7 [VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FUND.

8 * * *

9 (3.1) TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA TO DETERMINE NEED FOR
10 FIREFIGHTING APPARATUS, AMBULANCES AND RESCUE VEHICLES AND TO
11 ESTABLISH GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR [VOLUNTEER] FIRE
12 COMPANIES OR EMS COMPANIES TO SHOW JUST CAUSE TO DETERMINE
13 THAT NEED.

14 * * *

15 (B) DISCRETIONARY.--THE OFFICE HAS THE FOLLOWING POWERS:

16 * * *

17 (2) TO SPECIFY PRIORITY OF LIENS AGAINST ANY FACILITIES,
18 APPARATUS EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCES, RESCUE VEHICLES OR ANY
19 EQUIPMENT PURCHASED BY [VOLUNTEER] FIRE COMPANIES USING FUNDS
20 LOANED UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER TO PAY ALL OR ANY PART OF THE
21 PURCHASE PRICE, AS THE OFFICE MAY REQUIRE BY ESTABLISHED
22 GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES. THE COMMISSIONER MAY SPECIFY THE
23 TYPE OF LIENS OR COLLATERAL AUTHORIZED AS SECURITY UNDER THIS
24 PARAGRAPH.

25 * * *

26 § 7371. DISPOSITION AND USE OF PROCEEDS.

27 (A) GENERAL RULE.--THE PROCEEDS REALIZED FROM THE SALE OF
28 BONDS UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER SHALL BE PAID INTO THE [VOLUNTEER
29 COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FUND AND ARE SPECIFICALLY DEDICATED TO THE
30 PURPOSES OF THE REFERENDA OF NOVEMBER 4, 1975, NOVEMBER 3, 1981,

1 NOVEMBER 6, 1990, AND NOVEMBER 5, 2002, AND THE REFERENDUM
2 SPECIFIED UNDER SECTION 7378.4 (RELATING TO REFERENDUM TO EXPAND
3 LOAN ASSISTANCE), AS IMPLEMENTED BY THIS SUBCHAPTER. THE MONEYS
4 SHALL BE PAID BY THE STATE TREASURER PERIODICALLY TO THOSE
5 AGENCIES OR AUTHORITIES AUTHORIZED TO EXPEND THE MONEYS AT SUCH
6 TIMES AND IN SUCH AMOUNTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO SATISFY THE
7 FUNDING NEEDS OF THE AGENCY OR AUTHORITY.

8 (B) INVESTING.--PENDING THEIR APPLICATION TO THE PURPOSES
9 AUTHORIZED, MONEYS HELD OR DEPOSITED BY THE STATE TREASURER MAY
10 BE INVESTED OR REINVESTED AS ARE OTHER FUNDS IN THE CUSTODY OF
11 THE STATE TREASURER IN THE MANNER PROVIDED BY LAW. ALL EARNINGS
12 RECEIVED FROM THE INVESTMENT OR DEPOSIT OF SUCH FUNDS SHALL BE
13 PAID INTO THE STATE TREASURY TO THE CREDIT OF THE [VOLUNTEER
14 COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FUND.

15 § 7374. [VOLUNTEER COMPANY LOAN SINKING FUND] FIRE AND <--
16 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE SINKING <--
17 FUND AND INVESTMENTS.

18 ALL BONDS ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER SHALL BE REDEEMED AT
19 MATURITY AND ALL INTEREST DUE FROM TIME TO TIME ON SUCH BONDS
20 SHALL BE PAID FROM THE [VOLUNTEER COMPANY LOAN SINKING FUND]
21 FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE SINKING <--
22 FUND, WHICH IS HEREBY CREATED. FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF
23 REDEEMING BONDS ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER AT MATURITY AND
24 PAYING ALL INTEREST THEREON IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INFORMATION
25 RECEIVED FROM THE GOVERNOR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL
26 APPROPRIATE MONEYS TO THE [VOLUNTEER COMPANY LOAN SINKING FUND]
27 FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE SINKING FUND <--
28 FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON SUCH BONDS AND THE PRINCIPAL
29 THEREOF AT MATURITY. ALL MONEYS PAID INTO THE [VOLUNTEER COMPANY
30 LOAN SINKING FUND] FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN <--

1 ~~ASSISTANCE~~ SINKING FUND AND ALL OF SUCH MONEYS NOT NECESSARY TO <--
2 PAY ACCRUING INTEREST SHALL BE INVESTED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE
3 AND REVENUE IN SUCH SECURITIES AS ARE PROVIDED BY LAW FOR THE
4 INVESTMENT OF THE SINKING FUNDS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

5 § 7376. REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS FOR PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST.

6 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO
7 MONEYS RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE UNDER SECTION 7365 (RELATING TO
8 [~~VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND~~] FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL <--
9 SERVICES LOAN ~~ASSISTANCE~~ FUND) AND SUCH OTHER MONEYS AS MAY BE <--
10 NECESSARY TO MEET REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS FOR PRINCIPAL AND
11 INTEREST INTO THE [~~VOLUNTEER COMPANY LOAN SINKING FUND~~] FIRE AND <--
12 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ~~ASSISTANCE~~ SINKING FUND. <--

13 § 7378. TEMPORARY FINANCING AUTHORIZATION.

14 * * *

15 (D) PROCEEDS.--THE PROCEEDS OF ALL SUCH TEMPORARY BORROWINGS
16 SHALL BE PAID INTO THE [~~VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND~~] FUND.

17 § 7378.2. AUTHORIZATION OF CONTRACTS, REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE
18 AND AMOUNT.

19 THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

20 (1) THE SECRETARY OF GENERAL SERVICES IS AUTHORIZED TO
21 ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH LOCAL [~~VOLUNTEER FIRE, AMBULANCE~~
22 ~~AND RESCUE COMPANIES~~] FIRE COMPANIES OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL
23 SERVICES COMPANIES TO PROVIDE SERVICES NECESSARY TO
24 EXTINGUISH FIRES OR PERFORM ANY OTHER ALLIED SERVICES ON
25 STATE-OWNED PROPERTY.

26 (2) THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION IS AUTHORIZED TO
27 ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH LOCAL [~~VOLUNTEER~~] FIRE [~~, AMBULANCE~~
28 ~~AND RESCUE~~] COMPANIES OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES
29 TO PROVIDE SERVICES NECESSARY TO EXTINGUISH FIRES OR PERFORM
30 ANY OTHER ALLIED SERVICES ON LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAYS, OTHER

1 THAN THE PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE.

2 § 7378.3. REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE AND AMOUNT.

3 THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

4 (1) A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF GENERAL SERVICES
5 OR THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION AND A LOCAL [VOLUNTEER]
6 FIRE[, AMBULANCE AND RESCUE] COMPANY OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL
7 SERVICES COMPANY SHALL PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL
8 SERVICES OR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL, MONTHLY,
9 UPON RECEIPT OF PROPER PROOF, REIMBURSE EACH CONTRACTED
10 [VOLUNTEER] FIRE[, AMBULANCE AND RESCUE] COMPANY OR EMERGENCY
11 MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY ATTENDING AND PROVIDING FIRE CONTROL
12 OR OTHER ALLIED SERVICES ON STATE-OWNED PROPERTY OR LIMITED
13 ACCESS HIGHWAYS, AS THE CASE MAY BE, A MINIMUM AMOUNT OF \$50
14 FOR EACH VERIFIED FIRE OR EMERGENCY CALL AND THE COST OF ANY
15 SPECIAL EXTINGUISHING AGENTS UTILIZED, WHICH THE [VOLUNTEER]
16 FIRE[, AMBULANCE AND RESCUE] COMPANY OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL
17 SERVICES COMPANY MADE IN THE PRECEDING MONTH AS CERTIFIED BY
18 THE PERSON IN CHARGE AT THE PARTICULAR STATE-OWNED PROPERTY
19 OR BY AN INDIVIDUAL OR INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY THE
20 SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION TO VERIFY SERVICES RENDERED ON
21 LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAYS.

22 (2) A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL
23 SERVICES OR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND [A LOCAL
24 VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE OR RESCUE] AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
25 COMPANY SHALL ALSO PROVIDE THAT THE AMBULANCE OR RESCUE
26 COMPANY REQUEST REIMBURSEMENT FROM COLLECTIBLE INSURANCE
27 PROCEEDS AVAILABLE AS A RESULT OF THE FIRE OR EMERGENCY
28 SITUATION FOR WHICH THE [AMBULANCE OR RESCUE] EMERGENCY
29 MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY PROVIDED ALLIED SERVICES. PROCEEDS
30 PAYABLE TO THE [AMBULANCE OR RESCUE] EMERGENCY MEDICAL

1 SERVICES COMPANY SHALL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR
2 SERVICES PROVIDED PURSUANT TO A CONTRACT ENTERED INTO UNDER
3 THIS SUBCHAPTER. PRIOR TO PAYMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED, THE
4 [LOCAL VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE OR RESCUE] EMERGENCY MEDICAL
5 SERVICES COMPANY SHALL PROVIDE PROOF THAT THEY REQUESTED
6 REIMBURSEMENT FROM COLLECTIBLE INSURANCE PROCEEDS.

7 (3) A FALSE ALARM ON STATE-OWNED PROPERTY TO WHICH A
8 [VOLUNTEER] FIRE[, AMBULANCE OR RESCUE] COMPANY OR EMERGENCY
9 MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY RESPONDS SHALL CONSTITUTE A FIRE OR
10 EMERGENCY CALL AND SHALL BE REIMBURSED AT A RATE SET BY THE
11 CONTRACT WITH THE SECRETARY OF GENERAL SERVICES, BUT SHALL
12 NOT BE LESS THAN \$25 FOR EACH OCCURRENCE.

13 SECTION 5. TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING SECTIONS TO READ:
14 § 7378.4. REFERENDUM TO EXPAND LOAN ASSISTANCE.

15 (A) REFERENDUM.--THE QUESTION OF EXPANDING THE USE OF THE
16 INDEBTEDNESS AUTHORIZED UNDER SECTIONS 7367 (RELATING TO
17 AUTHORITY TO BORROW) AND 7378.1 (RELATING TO REFERENDUM FOR
18 ADDITIONAL INDEBTEDNESS) FOR VOLUNTEER LOAN ASSISTANCE UNDER
19 THIS SUBCHAPTER TO INCLUDE MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS OR FIRE
20 COMPANIES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES FOR THE
21 PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING AND MODERNIZING FACILITIES TO HOUSE
22 APPARATUS EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCES AND RESCUE VEHICLES, PROTECTIVE
23 AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND ANY OTHER ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT
24 NECESSARY FOR THE PROPER PERFORMANCE OF SUCH ORGANIZATIONS'
25 DUTIES, SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE AT THE NEXT
26 PRIMARY, MUNICIPAL OR GENERAL ELECTION HELD AFTER NOVEMBER 3,
27 2020.

28 (B) CERTIFICATION.--THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH SHALL
29 CERTIFY THE QUESTION TO THE COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTION.

30 (C) QUESTION TO THE ELECTORATE.--THE QUESTION SHALL BE IN

1 SUBSTANTIALLY THE FOLLOWING FORM:

2 DO YOU FAVOR EXPANDING THE USE OF THE INDEBTEDNESS
3 AUTHORIZED UNDER THE REFERENDUM FOR LOANS TO VOLUNTEER
4 FIRE COMPANIES, VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICES AND
5 VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUADS UNDER 35 PA.C.S. § 7378.1
6 (RELATING TO REFERENDUM FOR ADDITIONAL INDEBTEDNESS) TO
7 INCLUDE LOANS TO MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS OR COMPANIES
8 THAT PROVIDE SERVICES THROUGH PAID PERSONNEL AND
9 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF
10 ESTABLISHING AND MODERNIZING FACILITIES TO HOUSE
11 APPARATUS EQUIPMENT, AMBULANCES AND RESCUE VEHICLES,
12 PROTECTIVE AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND ANY OTHER
13 ACCESSORY EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR THE PROPER PERFORMANCE
14 OF THE DUTIES OF THE FIRE COMPANIES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL
15 SERVICES COMPANIES?

16 (D) ELECTION PROCEDURE.--THE REFERENDUM UNDER THIS SECTION
17 SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT OF JUNE 3, 1937
18 (P.L.1333, NO.320), KNOWN AS THE PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION CODE.

19 (E) CONSTRUCTION.--THIS SECTION SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED AS
20 AUTHORIZING ANY ADDITIONAL BORROWING FOR LOAN ASSISTANCE TO FIRE
21 COMPANIES OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES.

22 § 7378.5. ANNUAL REPORT AND DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.

23 (A) ANNUAL REPORT.--

24 (1) THE OFFICE SHALL PRODUCE AN ANNUAL REPORT, WHICH
25 SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

26 (I) HOW MUCH MONEY IS IN THE FUND AT THE BEGINNING
27 OF EACH FISCAL YEAR AND THE BALANCE IN THE FUND AT THE
28 END OF EACH FISCAL YEAR.

29 (II) HOW MANY LOAN APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE
30 OFFICE.

1 (III) HOW MANY LOANS WERE ISSUED UNDER THE
2 PENNSYLVANIA FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN
3 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

4 (IV) THE FIRE COMPANIES AND EMS COMPANIES TO WHICH
5 THE LOANS WERE ISSUED BY THE OFFICE.

6 (V) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF LOANS ISSUED BY THE OFFICE.

7 (VI) THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF LOANS FOR FACILITIES,
8 APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT.

9 (2) THE REPORT SHALL BE POSTED ON THE OFFICE'S PUBLICLY
10 ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE AND SENT TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

11 (I) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS
12 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE
13 SENATE.

14 (II) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS
15 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE
16 OF REPRESENTATIVES.

17 (B) DISTRIBUTION.--THE OFFICE SHALL ANNUALLY DISTRIBUTE
18 INFORMATION ON THE FUND TO ALL FIRE COMPANIES AND EMERGENCY
19 MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES IN THIS COMMONWEALTH, INCLUDING
20 NOTICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
21 LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE AMOUNTS THAT CAN BE BORROWED
22 UNDER THE PROGRAM.

23 SECTION 6. SECTIONS 7382 AND 7383 OF TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED TO
24 READ:

25 § 7382. DEFINITIONS.

26 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS SUBCHAPTER
27 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
28 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

29 "AGENCY." THE PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

30 "BOARD." THE STATE FIRE ADVISORY BOARD.

1 "COMMISSIONER." THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER.

2 ["COMMITTEE." THE FIRE SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.]

3 § 7383. STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER.

4 (A) STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER.--THERE SHALL BE A STATE FIRE
5 COMMISSIONER, WHO[, THROUGH THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,] SHALL
6 REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR ON ALL MATTERS CONCERNING FIRE [SAFETY]
7 SERVICES IN THIS COMMONWEALTH. THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE
8 COMMISSIONER SHALL BE WITHIN THE AGENCY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE
9 PURPOSES ONLY, AND THE COMMISSIONER SHALL NOT REPORT TO THE
10 DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL HAVE THE POWER
11 AND DUTY TO:

12 [(1) COORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF STATE AND LOCAL
13 COMMUNITY INTERESTS ENGAGED IN FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL
14 ACTIVITIES.]

15 [(2) SERVE AS A FOCAL POINT FOR INFORMATION RELATIVE TO
16 FIRES, PROPERTY DAMAGE, INJURIES AND THE LOSS OF LIFE.]

17 [(3) DISSEMINATE, THROUGH PERIODIC REPORTS, INFORMATION
18 ABOUT FIRE PREVENTION EFFORTS AND FIRE CONTROL TECHNIQUES.]

19 [(4) DEVELOP AND PARTICIPATE IN A PROGRAM OF PUBLIC
20 INFORMATION AND EDUCATION DESIGNED TO CREATE A PUBLIC
21 AWARENESS OF THE INCIDENCE AND THE RAVAGES OF FIRE AND
22 METHODS THE INDIVIDUAL CAN TAKE TO PREVENT FIRES AND MINIMIZE
23 LOSS WHEN THEY OCCUR.]

24 [(5) SERVE AS A CENTRAL POINT TO SUPPORT LOCAL EFFORTS
25 AND INTERESTS IN ALL MATTERS PERTINENT TO FIRE PREVENTION AND
26 CONTROL.]

27 (B) TRANSFER.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL USE, EMPLOY AND
28 EXPEND, IN CONNECTION WITH THE FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES
29 ENUMERATED IN SUBSECTION (A) FOR THE POSITION OF THE
30 COMMISSIONER, CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS, IF ANY, RECORDS, FILES,

1 PROPERTY, SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT NOW BEING USED OR HELD IN
2 CONNECTION WITH SUCH FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES AND THE
3 UNEXPENDED BALANCE OF APPROPRIATIONS, ALLOCATIONS, FEDERAL
4 GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDS AVAILABLE OR TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR USE
5 IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES AS
6 PREVIOUSLY WERE VESTED IN THE AGENCY BY REORGANIZATION PLAN NO.5
7 OF 1981 (P.L.612).]

8 (1) SERVE AS THE PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVE FOR FIRE
9 SERVICES IN THIS COMMONWEALTH. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL WORK
10 WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES TO ENSURE COORDINATION AT THE STATE AND
11 LOCAL LEVELS.

12 (2) SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE BOARD.

13 (3) DEVELOP CURRICULUM AND PROVIDE AND ASSIST IN THE
14 COORDINATION OF FIRE, RESCUE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING,
15 INCLUDING ONLINE TRAINING AND ISSUE CERTIFICATIONS.

16 (4) ADMINISTER THE STATE FIRE ACADEMY.

17 (5) COLLECT DATA, PROVIDE ANALYSIS AND PERIODIC REPORTS
18 AND SERVE AS A FOCAL POINT FOR INFORMATION RELATIVE TO FIRES,
19 PROPERTY DAMAGE, INJURIES TO THE PUBLIC AND FIREFIGHTERS AND
20 THE LOSS OF LIFE.

21 (6) CONDUCT AFTER-ACTION REPORTS ON SIGNIFICANT
22 INCIDENTS THAT INVOLVE FIREFIGHTER DEATHS AND SIGNIFICANT
23 INJURIES.

24 (7) ADMINISTER GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAMS FOR FIRE,
25 AMBULANCE AND RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS
26 TITLE OR AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW, INCLUDING ASSISTANCE
27 FOR FIREFIGHTER RELIEF ASSOCIATIONS, THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE
28 AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, FIRE
29 AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE, FIRE AND
30 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANTS AND MONEY RECEIVED BY THE

1 OFFICE OF STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER FROM THE UNCONVENTIONAL GAS
2 WELL FUND.

3 (8) ASSIST WITH STATEWIDE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION
4 EFFORTS.

5 (9) HIRE REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORS TO ASSIST FIRE
6 COMPANIES WITH GRANT AND LOAN ASSISTANCE, MERGERS,
7 CONSOLIDATION AND REGIONALIZATION AND PROMOTE BEST PRACTICES
8 FOR SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS.

9 (10) PROMOTE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY RISK
10 REDUCTION EFFORTS.

11 (11) ADMINISTER A FIRE EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTOR
12 CERTIFICATION PROGRAM AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

13 (C) QUALIFICATIONS AND APPOINTMENT.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL
14 BE A PERSON WHO, BY REASON OF TRAINING, EXPERIENCE AND
15 ATTAINMENT, IS QUALIFIED TO COORDINATE [FIRE PREVENTION AND
16 CONTROL ACTIVITIES. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE
17 GOVERNOR AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE FIRE SERVICE COMMUNITY. THE
18 COMMISSIONER SHALL ACT AS THE COMMONWEALTH'S PRIMARY
19 REPRESENTATIVE WITH THE STATEWIDE FIRE SERVICE COMMUNITY.]

20 SERVICES. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL HAVE SERVED AS A CHIEF OFFICER
21 OR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN A CAREER MUNICIPAL, COMBINATION OR <--
22 VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL BE APPOINTED BY
23 THE GOVERNOR SUBJECT TO THE CONSENT OF A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS
24 ELECTED TO THE SENATE.

25 SECTION 7. TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:
26 § 7383.1. CURRICULUM AND TRAINING.

27 (A) DUTY TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL
28 ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, DELIVERY AND
29 MAINTENANCE OF A SYSTEM OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING.

30 (B) TRAINING.--TRAINING SHALL BE LECTURE-BASED, HANDS ON OR

1 ONLINE. TRAINING MAY BE CONDUCTED AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE
2 ACADEMY, A COUNTY TRAINING CENTER, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE, A LOCAL
3 FIRE STATION OR OTHER APPROPRIATE AREA. THE TRAINING SHALL BE
4 INCORPORATED INTO THE TRAIN PA SYSTEM OR ANY OTHER SYSTEM
5 APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

6 (C) CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL
7 PROVIDE A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO
8 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES A FIRE OR EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING
9 PROGRAM.

10 (D) PUBLICATION.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL POST A COMPLETE
11 LISTING OF THE AVAILABLE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TRAINING
12 COURSES ON THE OFFICE'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

13 SECTION 8. SECTIONS 7384(A), (B) AND (D), 7385 HEADING, (A)
14 AND (C) AND 7386 OF TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED TO READ:

15 § 7384. PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY.

16 (A) CREATION.--THERE IS CREATED THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE
17 ACADEMY, WHICH SHALL BE UNDER THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE
18 COMMISSIONER. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ADMINISTRATIVELY PROVIDE
19 FOR THE ERECTION OR CONSTRUCTION, THE FURNISHING, THE STAFFING
20 AND THE EQUIPPING OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES THROUGH THE
21 DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES AND FOR THE LEASING THEREOF BY
22 THE COMMONWEALTH FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
23 STATE FIRE ACADEMY. [THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIREMEN'S TRAINING
24 SCHOOL AND THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
25 AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTE BOARD PERTAINING TO THE
26 PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIREMEN'S TRAINING SCHOOL, WHICH WERE
27 TRANSFERRED TO THE AGENCY UNDER REORGANIZATION PLAN NO.6 OF 1981
28 (P.L.613) AND WHICH ARE SET FORTH IN SUBCHAPTER D (RELATING TO
29 STATE FIREMEN'S TRAINING SCHOOL), ARE HEREBY TRANSFERRED TO AND
30 VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONER.

1 (B) TRANSFER.--THERE ARE TRANSFERRED TO THE COMMISSIONER, TO
2 BE USED, EMPLOYED AND EXPENDED IN CONNECTION WITH THE FUNCTIONS,
3 POWERS AND DUTIES ENUMERATED IN SUBSECTION (A), PERSONNEL,
4 CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS, IF ANY, RECORDS, FILES, PROPERTY, SUPPLIES
5 AND EQUIPMENT NOW BEING USED OR HELD IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH
6 FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES AND THE UNEXPENDED BALANCE OF
7 APPROPRIATIONS, ALLOCATIONS, FEDERAL GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDS
8 AVAILABLE OR TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR USE IN CONNECTION WITH
9 SUCH FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND DUTIES AS PREVIOUSLY WERE VESTED IN
10 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTE
11 BOARD UNDER SUBCHAPTER D, AND TRANSFERRED TO THE AGENCY BY
12 REORGANIZATION PLAN NO.6 OF 1981 (P.L.613).]

13 * * *

14 (D) FIREFIGHTER TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.--A STATEWIDE
15 FIREFIGHTER TRAINING PROGRAM SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE
16 COMMISSIONER. [TO EDUCATE THE FIRE SERVICE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE
17 IMPORTANCE OF FIREFIGHTER HEALTH AND SAFETY. THIS PROGRAM SHALL
18 INCLUDE MEASURES DESIGNED TO INCREASE THE MOBILITY OF TRAINING
19 COURSES THROUGHOUT THIS COMMONWEALTH, TO ENHANCE FIREFIGHTER
20 ACCESSIBILITY TO TRAINING COURSE OFFERINGS AND TO IMPROVE AND
21 EXPAND TRAINING FOR AND RESPONSE CAPABILITY TO EMERGENCIES WITH
22 EMPHASIS ON HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS.] THE PROGRAM SHALL
23 ALSO INCLUDE [IMPLEMENTATION OF] A FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION
24 PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH [PARAMETERS DEVELOPED BY THE
25 COMMISSIONER CONSISTENT WITH] ESTABLISHED STANDARDS. THE
26 ACQUISITION OF PHYSICAL RESOURCES TO ENHANCE STATEWIDE
27 CAPABILITY SHALL BE COORDINATED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

28 * * *

29 § 7385. PENNSYLVANIA [VOLUNTEER] FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL
30 SERVICES LOAN [ASSISTANCE] PROGRAM. <--

1 (A) CREATION.--THERE SHALL BE A LOAN [ASSISTANCE] PROGRAM, <--
2 WHICH SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE COMMISSIONER, FOR [VOLUNTEER
3 AGENCIES, KNOWN AS THE PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEER LOAN ASSISTANCE
4 PROGRAM,] FIRE COMPANIES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
5 COMPANIES, KNOWN AS THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL
6 SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, WHICH SHALL MAKE LOANS UNDER <--
7 SUBCHAPTER E (RELATING TO [VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, AMBULANCE
8 SERVICE AND RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE). THE PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEER
9 LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE POWERS AND DUTIES PREVIOUSLY
10 VESTED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, WHICH WERE
11 TRANSFERRED TO THE AGENCY UNDER REORGANIZATION PLAN NO.7 OF 1981
12 (P.L.615) AND WHICH ARE SET FORTH UNDER SUBCHAPTER E, ARE HEREBY
13 TRANSFERRED TO AND VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONER.] FIRE AND
14 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM). <--

15 * * *

16 [(C) REGULATIONS.--THE VOLUNTEER LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
17 REGULATIONS FOUND IN 4 PA. CODE CH. 113 (RELATING TO VOLUNTEER
18 FIRE COMPANY, AMBULANCE SERVICE AND RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE) ARE
19 HEREBY TRANSFERRED TO THE COMMISSIONER FROM THE AGENCY. THE
20 COMMISSIONER SHALL FULLY IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THOSE
21 REGULATIONS ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 12, 1996. THE COMMISSIONER MAY
22 BE SUBSTITUTED FOR THE AGENCY THROUGHOUT THE REGULATIONS AND THE
23 REGULATIONS MAY BE RENUMBERED AND PUBLISHED IN THE PENNSYLVANIA
24 BULLETIN AS FINAL REGULATIONS WITHOUT THOSE REGULATORY CHANGES
25 BEING SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF JUNE 25, 1982
26 (P.L.633, NO.181), KNOWN AS THE REGULATORY REVIEW ACT.]

27 § 7386. STATE FIRE [SAFETY] ADVISORY [COMMITTEE] BOARD.

28 (A) CREATION.--

29 (1) THERE IS CREATED THE STATE FIRE [SAFETY] ADVISORY
30 [COMMITTEE] BOARD TO ASSIST THE COMMISSIONER. THE [COMMITTEE]

1 BOARD SHALL CONSIST OF [NINE] THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS[, AS
2 FOLLOWS:

3 (I) THE DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY, EX OFFICIO.

4 (II) THE COMMISSIONER, WHO SHALL SERVE AS CHAIRMAN.

5 (III) TWO PAID FIREFIGHTERS TO BE APPOINTED BY THE
6 GOVERNOR FROM A LIST OF AT LEAST SIX NOMINEES SUBMITTED
7 BY THE PENNSYLVANIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
8 ASSOCIATION.

9 (IV) ONE MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC TO BE APPOINTED BY THE
10 GOVERNOR.

11 (V) FOUR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS, ONE EACH TO BE
12 APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE, THE
13 MINORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
14 OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE
15 OF REPRESENTATIVES.]:

16 (I) THE COMMISSIONER, WHO SHALL SERVE AS
17 CHAIRPERSON.

18 (II) THE PRESIDENT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA PROFESSIONAL
19 FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION OR A DESIGNEE.

20 (III) THE PRESIDENT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CAREER FIRE
21 CHIEFS ASSOCIATION OR A DESIGNEE.

22 (IV) THE PRESIDENT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE AND
23 EMERGENCY SERVICES INSTITUTE OR A DESIGNEE.

24 (V) TEN FIREFIGHTERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, TO
25 WHOM THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

26 (A) ONE MEMBER SHALL BE THE PRESIDENT, OR
27 DESIGNEE OF THE PRESIDENT, OF THE INTERNATIONAL
28 ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS IN A FIRE COMPANY IN A
29 CITY OF THE FIRST CLASS, SECOND CLASS OR THIRD CLASS
30 WITH A POPULATION OF AT LEAST 115,000 BASED ON THE

1 MOST RECENT CENSUS, SO LONG AS THE FIRE COMPANY IS
2 NOT A MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA PROFESSIONAL
3 FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION.

4 (B) EXCEPT FOR THE MEMBER UNDER CLAUSE (A), THE
5 FOLLOWING APPLY:

6 (I) ONE MEMBER SHALL BE A CERTIFIED FIRE
7 SERVICE INSTRUCTOR.

8 (II) MEMBERS SHALL BE:

9 (A) CURRENT MEMBERS OF A FIRE COMPANY OR
10 CURRENTLY SERVING OR HAVE SERVED WITHIN THE
11 PAST FIVE YEARS AS A CHIEF OFFICER OR
12 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF A FIRE COMPANY; AND

13 (B) CERTIFIED AS FIREFIGHTER I OR ITS
14 EQUIVALENT.

15 (III) ONE MEMBER SHALL BE SELECTED FROM EACH
16 OF THE FOLLOWING REGIONS:

17 (A) REGION 1 - CRAWFORD, ERIE, FOREST,
18 VENANGO AND WARREN COUNTIES.

19 (B) REGION 2 - ALLEGHENY, ARMSTRONG,
20 BEAVER, BUTLER, CAMBRIA, FAYETTE, GREENE,
21 INDIANA, LAWRENCE, MERCER, SOMERSET,
22 WASHINGTON AND WESTMORELAND COUNTIES.

23 (C) REGION 3 - CAMERON, CLARION,
24 CLEARFIELD, ELK, JEFFERSON AND MCKEAN
25 COUNTIES.

26 (D) REGION 4 - BEDFORD, BLAIR, CENTRE,
27 FULTON, HUNTINGDON, JUNIATA, MIFFLIN AND
28 SNYDER COUNTIES.

29 (E) REGION 5 - BRADFORD, CLINTON,
30 LYCOMING, POTTER, SULLIVAN, TIOGA AND UNION

1 COUNTIES.

2 (F) REGION 6 - ADAMS, CUMBERLAND,
3 DAUPHIN, FRANKLIN, LANCASTER, LEBANON, PERRY
4 AND YORK COUNTIES.

5 (G) REGION 7 - BERKS, COLUMBIA, LUZERNE,
6 MONTOUR, NORTHUMBERLAND, SCHUYLKILL AND
7 WYOMING COUNTIES.

8 (H) REGION 8 - CARBON, LACKAWANNA,
9 LEHIGH, MONROE, NORTHAMPTON, PIKE,
10 SUSQUEHANNA AND WAYNE COUNTIES.

11 (I) REGION 9 - BUCKS, CHESTER, DELAWARE,
12 MONTGOMERY AND PHILADELPHIA COUNTIES.

13 (2) MEMBERS OF THE [COMMITTEE] BOARD SHALL SERVE AT THE
14 PLEASURE OF THEIR APPOINTING AUTHORITY. [THE COMMITTEE SHALL
15 ADVISE THE COMMISSIONER ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE
16 OPERATION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY AND ANY
17 OTHER MATTERS AS THE COMMISSIONER MAY REQUEST.]

18 (3) THE CHAIRPERSON AND MINORITY CHAIRPERSON OF THE
19 VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE
20 SENATE AND THE CHAIRPERSON AND MINORITY CHAIRPERSON OF THE
21 VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE
22 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OR THEIR DESIGNEES, SHALL SERVE AS
23 NONVOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

24 (4) THE GOVERNOR ~~MAY~~ SHALL APPOINT THE FOLLOWING AS <--
25 NONVOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

26 (I) THE DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY.

27 (II) THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL
28 SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

29 (III) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOLLOWING:

30 (A) THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF HAZARDOUS

1 MATERIALS TECHNICIANS.

2 (B) THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRE
3 EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTORS.

4 (C) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF
5 PENNSYLVANIA.

6 (D) THE PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE.

7 (E) THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF
8 TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS.

9 (F) THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF
10 TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS.

11 (G) THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF
12 BOROUGHES.

13 (H) THE PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS OF
14 GOVERNMENTS.

15 (I) TRADE ASSOCIATIONS.

16 (J) FIRE EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS VENDORS.

17 (K) MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

18 (5) MEMBERS OF THE BOARD INITIALLY APPOINTED BY THE
19 GOVERNOR UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) (V) SHALL SERVE AN INITIAL TERM
20 OF TWO YEARS AS DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNOR AT THE TIME OF
21 APPOINTMENT. UPON THE EXPIRATION OF THE INITIAL TERM OF
22 OFFICE OF EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD AS APPOINTED UNDER
23 PARAGRAPH (1) (V), THE MEMBER SHALL HOLD OFFICE FOR A TERM OF
24 FOUR YEARS AND MAY CONTINUE TO HOLD OFFICE FOR A PERIOD OF
25 TIME NOT TO EXCEED SIX MONTHS OR UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS
26 APPOINTED AND QUALIFIED, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST. UPON THE
27 DEATH, RESIGNATION OR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE OF ANY PERSON SO
28 APPOINTED, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT A COMPETENT PERSON TO
29 SERVE FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM.

30 (6) UPON THE COMPLETION OF A MEMBER'S TERM WHO WAS

1 APPOINTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) (V) (A), THE GOVERNOR SHALL NOT
2 APPOINT THE SUCCEEDING MEMBER FROM THE SAME CLASS OF CITY AS
3 THE PREVIOUS TWO OUTGOING MEMBERS.

4 (B) EXPENSES.--MEMBERS OF THE [COMMITTEE] BOARD SHALL
5 RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FOR REASONABLE TRAVEL[, HOTEL] AND OTHER
6 NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES
7 IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMMONWEALTH REGULATIONS.

8 (C) MEETINGS.--THE BOARD SHALL MEET AT LEAST QUARTERLY OR AT
9 THE TIMES AND PLACES AS CALLED UPON BY THE COMMISSIONER. ALL
10 MEETINGS OF THE BOARD SHALL COMPLY WITH 65 PA.C.S. CH. 7
11 (RELATING TO OPEN MEETINGS).

12 (D) DUTIES.--THE BOARD SHALL ADVISE THE COMMISSIONER ON
13 MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE FOLLOWING:

14 (1) LEGISLATION.

15 (2) INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING.

16 (3) STANDARDS OF COVER FOR MUNICIPALITIES.

17 (4) OPERATION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY.

18 (5) ANY OTHER MATTERS AS THE COMMISSIONER MAY REQUEST OR
19 AS DIRECTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

20 SECTION 9. THE HEADING OF SUBCHAPTER B OF CHAPTER 74 OF
21 TITLE 35 IS AMENDED TO READ:

22 SUBCHAPTER B

23 FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION

24 SECTION 10. THE DEFINITION OF "VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS'
25 RELIEF ASSOCIATION" IN SECTION 7412 OF TITLE 35 IS AMENDED AND
26 THE SECTION IS AMENDED BY ADDING DEFINITIONS TO READ:

27 § 7412. DEFINITIONS.

28 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS SUBCHAPTER
29 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
30 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

1 "COMMISSIONER." THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER.

2 "FIRE COMPANY." A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, A MUNICIPAL FIRE
3 COMPANY OR A COMBINED VOLUNTEER AND MUNICIPAL FIRE COMPANY
4 LOCATED IN THIS COMMONWEALTH.

5 * * *

6 "LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM." A SYSTEM ESTABLISHED BY A
7 VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY OR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF
8 ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE TAX-DEFERRED INCOME BENEFITS TO ACTIVE
9 VOLUNTEER MEMBERS OF A FIRE SERVICE.

10 "VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY." AS DEFINED IN SECTION 7802
11 (RELATING TO DEFINITIONS).

12 * * *

13 "VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION." AN
14 ORGANIZATION FORMED PRIMARILY TO AFFORD FINANCIAL PROTECTION TO
15 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AGAINST THE CONSEQUENCES OF MISFORTUNE
16 SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE FIRE SERVICE.
17 THE ORGANIZATION MAY CONTAIN WITHIN ITS MEMBERSHIP THE MEMBERS
18 OF ONE OR MORE [FIRE COMPANIES] VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES OR FIRE
19 COMPANIES THAT ARE A COMBINATION OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY AND
20 A MUNICIPAL FIRE COMPANY, AND MAY SERVE SECONDARY PURPOSES, AS
21 SET FORTH IN THIS SUBCHAPTER, BUT ONLY IF ADEQUATE PROVISIONS
22 HAVE BEEN FIRST MADE TO SERVE THE PRIMARY PURPOSE.

23 SECTION 11. SECTION 7413 INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH, (1) AND (4)
24 OF TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED AND THE SECTION IS AMENDED BY ADDING A
25 PARAGRAPH TO READ:

26 § 7413. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.

27 THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBCHAPTER IS TO ENCOURAGE INDIVIDUALS TO
28 TAKE PART IN THE FIRE SERVICE AS VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS BY
29 ESTABLISHING CRITERIA AND STANDARDS FOR ORDERLY ADMINISTRATION
30 AND CONDUCT OF AFFAIRS OF FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATIONS TO

1 ENSURE, AS FAR AS CIRCUMSTANCES WILL REASONABLY PERMIT, THAT
2 FUNDS SHALL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE ASSISTANCE TO AND PROTECTION OF
3 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND THEIR HEIRS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE:

4 (1) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WHO
5 MAY SUFFER PHYSICAL OR MENTAL INJURY OR MISFORTUNE BY REASON
6 OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE FIRE SERVICE.

7 * * *

8 (4) SAFEGUARDS FOR PRESERVING LIFE, HEALTH AND SAFETY OF
9 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS TO ENSURE THEIR AVAILABILITY TO
10 PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRE SERVICE, INCLUDING NECESSARY
11 TRAINING.

12 * * *

13 (6.1) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN
14 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS.

15 * * *

16 SECTION 12. SECTION 7416(A) AND (F) (11), (13) AND (14) OF
17 TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED AND SUBSECTION (F) IS AMENDED BY ADDING
18 PARAGRAPHS TO READ:

19 § 7416. FUNDS.

20 (A) GENERAL RULE.--A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF
21 ASSOCIATION MAY SOLICIT AND RECEIVE GIFTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
22 ANY SOURCE, INCLUDING MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS, BUT SHALL NOT HAVE
23 THE RIGHT TO RECEIVE ANY PORTION OF THE MONEY DISTRIBUTED TO
24 POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH UNDER CHAPTER 7 OF
25 THE ACT OF DECEMBER 18, 1984 (P.L.1005, NO.205), KNOWN AS THE
26 MUNICIPAL PENSION PLAN FUNDING STANDARD AND RECOVERY ACT, UNLESS
27 AND UNTIL THE GOVERNING BODY OF AT LEAST ONE POLITICAL
28 SUBDIVISION SHALL HAVE CERTIFIED TO THE [AUDITOR GENERAL]
29 COMMISSIONER THAT THE ASSOCIATION IS A BONA FIDE VOLUNTEER
30 FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION, AFFILIATED WITH A FIRE COMPANY

1 WHICH AFFORDS PROTECTION AGAINST FIRE TO ALL OR A PORTION OF THE
2 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION. THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE ANY NON-FIRE-
3 COMPANY-AFFILIATED RELIEF ASSOCIATION IN EXISTENCE AND RECEIVING
4 FUNDS AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER PRIOR TO NOVEMBER
5 23, 2010.

6 * * *

7 (F) USE.--FUNDS OF ANY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF
8 ASSOCIATION MAY BE SPENT:

9 * * *

10 (11) TO PURCHASE SAFEGUARDS FOR PRESERVING LIFE, HEALTH
11 AND SAFETY OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS TO ENSURE THEIR
12 AVAILABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE,
13 INCLUDING NECESSARY TRAINING.

14 * * *

15 (13) TO MAINTAIN COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH, PHYSICAL FITNESS
16 AND PHYSICAL MONITORING PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE FOR PHYSICAL
17 FITNESS ACTIVITIES, NUTRITION EDUCATION AND SUPPLIES AND
18 INSTRUCTION AND HEALTH AND FITNESS EVALUATION AND MONITORING,
19 PROVIDED THAT THE PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE NEAREST
20 STATE-LICENSED HEALTH CARE FACILITY WHICH IS AUTHORIZED TO
21 PROVIDE THAT SERVICE.

22 (14) TO PURCHASE EXERCISE AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT FOR USE
23 BY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS[, EXCEPT THAT EXPENDITURES FOR
24 EXERCISE AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT SHALL NOT EXCEED \$2,000 IN ANY
25 TWO-YEAR PERIOD].

26 * * *

27 (19) TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ACTIVITIES AND
28 MATERIALS NEEDED TO AID IN THE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF
29 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS.

30 (20) TO ESTABLISH AND PAY FOR LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD

1 PROGRAMS.

2 (21) TO PAY FOR FACILITIES FOR STORAGE OF EMERGENCY
3 VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT, TRAINING AND MEETINGS.

4 (22) TO PAY FOR VEHICLES USED FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

5 (23) TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT USED FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

6 (24) TO DEFRAY THE COST OF OBTAINING OR RENEWING A
7 COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSES UNDER 75 PA.C.S. CH. 16
8 (RELATING TO COMMERCIAL DRIVERS) FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS
9 WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH TO OPERATE FIRE OR
10 EMERGENCY VEHICLES REGISTERED TO FIRE COMPANIES OR
11 MUNICIPALITIES.

12 (25) TO PAY FOR STIPENDS TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS, NOT
13 TO EXCEED \$1,500 PER YEAR.

14 SECTION 13. SECTION 7418 OF TITLE 35 IS AMENDED TO READ:

15 § 7418. AUDITS.

16 (A) GENERAL RULE.--

17 (1) THE OFFICE OF AUDITOR GENERAL SHALL HAVE THE POWER
18 AND ITS DUTY SHALL BE TO AUDIT THE ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS OF
19 EVERY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION RECEIVING
20 MONEY UNDER CHAPTER 7 OF THE ACT OF DECEMBER 18, 1984
21 (P.L.1005, NO.205), KNOWN AS THE MUNICIPAL PENSION PLAN
22 FUNDING STANDARD AND RECOVERY ACT, AS FAR AS MAY BE NECESSARY
23 TO SATISFY THE AUDITOR GENERAL THAT THE MONEY RECEIVED WAS OR
24 IS BEING EXPENDED FOR NO PURPOSE OTHER THAN THAT AUTHORIZED
25 BY THIS SUBCHAPTER. COPIES OF ALL AUDITS SHALL BE FURNISHED
26 TO THE GOVERNOR.

27 (2) THE COMMISSIONER, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE FIRE
28 ADVISORY ~~COMMITTEE~~ BOARD, SHALL ESTABLISH AND PUBLISH <--
29 ANNUALLY, ON THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER'S
30 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE, ELIGIBLE USES OF THE

1 MONEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBCHAPTER.

2 (3) THE COMMISSIONER MAY RECEIVE INQUIRIES FROM THE FIRE
3 SERVICES ON ELIGIBLE USES OF MONEY AND, IN CONSULTATION WITH
4 THE FIRE ADVISORY ~~COMMITTEE~~ BOARD, MAKE A DETERMINATION ON <--
5 THE ELIGIBLE USE OF MONEY ON THE EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE THAT IS
6 THE SUBJECT OF THE INQUIRY.

7 (4) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (1), THE COMMISSIONER
8 SHALL MAINTAIN AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE ELIGIBLE USES OF
9 MONEY RECEIVED.

10 (B) FINDINGS.--IF THE AUDITOR GENERAL FINDS THAT [ANY] MONEY
11 RECEIVED BY A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION HAS
12 BEEN EXPENDED FOR A PURPOSE OTHER THAN ONE AUTHORIZED BY THIS
13 SUBCHAPTER, THE COMMISSIONER, UPON RECEIVING NOTICE OF THE
14 FINDINGS FROM THE AUDITOR GENERAL, SHALL [IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE
15 GOVERNOR AND SHALL] DECLINE TO APPROVE [FURTHER REQUISITIONS
16 CALLING FOR] PAYMENT TO THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF
17 ASSOCIATION UNTIL THE IMPROPERLY EXPENDED AMOUNT HAS BEEN
18 REIMBURSED TO THE RELIEF ASSOCIATION FUND.

19 SECTION 14. TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:
20 § 7419.1. FIRE RELIEF FORMULA STUDY.

21 (A) STUDY.--THE FIRE ADVISORY ~~COMMITTEE~~ BOARD SHALL HAVE THE <--
22 FOLLOWING DUTIES:

23 (1) REVIEW AND MAKE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
24 REGARDING THE FIRE RELIEF FUNDING FORMULA AND FIRE RELIEF
25 SERVICES IN THIS COMMONWEALTH.

26 (2) HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS REGARDING THE FIRE RELIEF
27 FUNDING FORMULA AND FIRE RELIEF SERVICES IN DIFFERENT REGIONS
28 OF THIS COMMONWEALTH.

29 (3) CONSULT WITH AND UTILIZE EXPERTS TO ASSIST THE
30 ~~COMMITTEE~~ BOARD IN CARRYING OUT ITS DUTIES UNDER THIS <--

1 SECTION.

2 (4) RECEIVE INPUT FROM INTERESTED PARTIES AND TAKE INTO
3 CONSIDERATION THE DIVERSE NATURE OF FIRE SERVICES IN THIS
4 COMMONWEALTH.

5 (5) DRAFT PROPOSED LEGISLATION BASED ON THE ~~COMMITTEE'S~~ <--
6 BOARD'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE FIRE <--
7 RELIEF FUNDING FORMULA AND FIRE RELIEF SERVICES.

8 (6) NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 30, 2022, ISSUE A REPORT ON
9 THE ~~COMMITTEE'S~~ BOARD'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS <--
10 REGARDING THE FIRE RELIEF FUNDING FORMULA AND FIRE RELIEF
11 SERVICES TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

12 (I) THE GOVERNOR.

13 (II) THE COMMISSIONER.

14 (III) THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE.

15 (IV) THE MAJORITY LEADER AND MINORITY LEADER OF THE
16 SENATE.

17 (V) THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
18 COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

19 (VI) THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

20 (VII) THE MAJORITY LEADER AND MINORITY LEADER OF THE
21 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

22 (VIII) THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
23 PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

24 (B) CONSTRUCTION.--NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE
25 CONSTRUED TO AUTHORIZE A FIRE RELIEF FUNDING FORMULA TO GO INTO
26 EFFECT WITHOUT BEING APPROVED BY AN ACT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

27 SECTION 15. THE DEFINITION OF "FIRE COMPANY" IN SECTION 7802
28 OF TITLE 35 IS AMENDED AND THE SECTION IS AMENDED BY ADDING A
29 DEFINITION TO READ:

30 § 7802. DEFINITIONS.

1 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS CHAPTER
2 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
3 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

4 * * *

5 "AIRPORT FIRE COMPANY." A FIRE COMPANY THAT DOES ALL OF THE
6 FOLLOWING:

7 (1) IS ASSOCIATED WITH AN AIRPORT.

8 (2) HAS A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH A NEIGHBORING
9 MUNICIPALITY.

10 (3) HAS RESPONDED TO AT LEAST 15 FIRE OR RESCUE <--
11 EMERGENCY CALLS ANNUALLY TO NEIGHBORING FIRE COMPANIES AS
12 PROVIDED IN DOCUMENTATION REQUESTED BY THE STATE FIRE
13 COMMISSIONER.

14 * * *

15 "FIRE COMPANY." A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY [OR], A MUNICIPAL
16 FIRE COMPANY OR A COMBINED VOLUNTEER AND MUNICIPAL FIRE COMPANY
17 LOCATED IN THIS COMMONWEALTH. THE TERM INCLUDES AN AIRPORT FIRE
18 COMPANY.

19 * * *

20 SECTION 16. SECTIONS 7811 AND 7812 OF TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED
21 TO READ:

22 § 7811. ESTABLISHMENT.

23 THE FIRE COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM IS ESTABLISHED AND SHALL BE
24 ADMINISTERED BY THE [AGENCY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE]
25 COMMISSIONER. GRANTS PROVIDED UNDER THIS PROGRAM SHALL BE USED
26 TO IMPROVE AND ENHANCE THE CAPABILITIES OF [THE FIRE COMPANY]
27 FIRE COMPANIES TO PROVIDE FIREFIGHTING, AMBULANCE AND RESCUE
28 SERVICES.

29 § 7812. PUBLICATION AND NOTICE.

30 THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER SHALL PUBLISH NOTICE OF THE GRANT

1 PROGRAM AVAILABILITY THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
2 FOR PUBLICATION IN THE PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN[:

3 (1) WITHIN 30 DAYS OF JUNE 28, 2007, FOR THE FISCAL
4 YEARS BEGINNING JULY 1, 2006, AND JULY 1, 2007; AND

5 (2)] BY AUGUST 8 FOR [FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING AFTER JUNE
6 30, 2008.] EACH FISCAL YEAR. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL POST A
7 NOTICE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM AND APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT
8 PROGRAM ON THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER'S
9 PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

10 SECTION 17. SECTION 7813(A), (C) AND (D) OF TITLE 35 ARE
11 AMENDED, SUBSECTION (B) IS AMENDED BY ADDING A PARAGRAPH AND THE
12 SECTION IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SUBSECTION TO READ:

13 § 7813. AWARD OF GRANTS.

14 (A) AUTHORIZATION.--THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
15 TO MAKE A GRANT AWARD TO EACH ELIGIBLE FIRE COMPANY FOR THE
16 FOLLOWING:

17 (1) CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF [THE FIRE COMPANY'S
18 FACILITY] FACILITIES AND PURCHASE OR REPAIR OF FIXTURES AND
19 FURNISHINGS, OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES NECESSARY
20 TO MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE THE CAPABILITY OF THE COMPANY TO
21 PROVIDE FIRE, AMBULANCE AND RESCUE SERVICES.

22 (2) REPAIR OF FIREFIGHTING, AMBULANCE OR RESCUE
23 EQUIPMENT OR PURCHASE THEREOF.

24 (3) DEBT REDUCTION ASSOCIATED WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OR (2).

25 (4) TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF MEMBERS.

26 (5) [TRAINING AND EDUCATION] EDUCATION OF THE GENERAL
27 PUBLIC REGARDING FIRE PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY RISK
28 REDUCTION.

29 (6) RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION, INCLUDING, BUT NOT
30 LIMITED TO, VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD

1 PROGRAMS AND PROGRAMS FOR MINORS.

2 (7) REVENUE LOSS FOR GRANTS ISSUED IN 2021 AND 2022.

3 * * *

4 (B) LIMITS.--

5 * * *

6 (4) A FIRE COMPANY MAY ONLY APPLY FOR A GRANT FOR UP TO
7 FIVE YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE UNDER SUBSECTION (E).

8 (C) TIME FOR FILING APPLICATION AND DEPARTMENT ACTION.--

9 (1) [WITHIN 30 DAYS OF JUNE 28, 2007, FOR THE FISCAL
10 YEARS BEGINNING JULY 1, 2006, AND JULY 1, 2007, AND BY] BY
11 SEPTEMBER [1] 8 OF EACH YEAR [THEREAFTER], THE [AGENCY]
12 COMMISSIONER SHALL PROVIDE APPLICATIONS AND WRITTEN
13 INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRANTS UNDER THIS CHAPTER TO:

14 (I) EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II), THE
15 FIRE CHIEF AND PRESIDENT OF EVERY FIRE COMPANY; OR

16 (II) IN THE CASE OF A MUNICIPAL FIRE COMPANY, THE
17 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE MUNICIPALITY.

18 (2) [WITHIN 45 DAYS OF JUNE 28, 2007, FOR THE FISCAL
19 YEARS BEGINNING JULY 1, 2006, AND JULY 1, 2007, AND BY
20 SEPTEMBER 8 OF EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE AGENCY SHALL PROVIDE
21 APPLICATIONS TO INDIVIDUALS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (1). THE
22 APPLICATION FOR THE FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING JULY 1, 2006, AND
23 JULY 1, 2007, SHALL BE A COMBINED APPLICATION.] FIRE
24 COMPANIES SEEKING GRANTS UNDER THIS CHAPTER SHALL SUBMIT
25 COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER AND THE
26 MUNICIPALITIES WHERE THE FIRE COMPANIES ARE LOCATED. THE
27 APPLICATION PERIOD SHALL REMAIN OPEN FOR 45 DAYS EACH YEAR.
28 THE AGENCY SHALL ACT TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE APPLICATIONS
29 WITHIN 60 DAYS OF THE APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE EACH
30 YEAR. APPLICATIONS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR

1 DISAPPROVED BY THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER
2 THE CLOSE OF THE APPLICATION PERIOD EACH YEAR SHALL BE DEEMED
3 APPROVED.

4 (D) ELIGIBILITY.--TO RECEIVE GRANT FUNDS UNDER THIS CHAPTER,
5 A FIRE COMPANY MUST:

6 (1) HAVE ACTIVELY RESPONDED TO AT LEAST [10] 15 FIRE OR
7 RESCUE EMERGENCIES DURING THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR.

8 (2) BE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE
9 INFORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM UNDER A SIGNED AGREEMENT. THE
10 COMMISSIONER SHALL DEVELOP AND PUBLISH GUIDELINES SPECIFYING
11 THE CRITERIA NECESSARY TO DETERMINE THE LEVEL OF
12 PARTICIPATION IN THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE INFORMATION REPORTING
13 SYSTEM TO REMAIN ELIGIBLE FOR GRANT FUNDS.

14 (E) CONSTRUCTION SAVINGS ACCOUNT.--A FIRE COMPANY MAY APPLY
15 FOR A GRANT UNDER SUBSECTION (A) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING
16 A NEW FACILITY. THE GRANT SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE
17 CONSTRUCTION SAVINGS ACCOUNT, WHICH IS ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE
18 STATE TREASURY. MONEY IN THE CONSTRUCTION SAVINGS ACCOUNT MAY BE
19 WITHDRAWN BY APPLICATION OF THE FIRE COMPANY. THE CONSTRUCTION
20 SAVINGS ACCOUNT SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE COMMISSIONER. THE
21 FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

22 (1) A FIRE COMPANY MAY ONLY ACCESS MONEY IN THE
23 CONSTRUCTION SAVINGS ACCOUNT FOR EMERGENCY PURPOSES AND AT
24 THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSIONER.

25 (2) FOR A FIRE COMPANY TO WITHDRAW MONEY FROM THE
26 CONSTRUCTION SAVINGS ACCOUNT:

27 (I) THE APPLICATION SHALL CONTAIN THE SIGNATURES OF
28 TWO DULY ELECTED OFFICERS OF THE FIRE COMPANY.

29 (II) THE FIRE COMPANY SHALL INDICATE ON THE
30 APPLICATION HOW THE MONEY IS GOING TO BE USED UNDER

1 SUBSECTION (A) .

2 (3) ANY INTEREST ACCRUED ON THE CONSTRUCTION SAVINGS
3 ACCOUNT MAY BE USED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE
4 PURPOSES.

5 SECTION 18. SECTIONS 7814, 7821, 7822 AND 7823(A) AND (C) OF
6 TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED TO READ:

7 § 7814. CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVE.

8 IF[, AFTER JULY 31, 2003,] TWO OR MORE VOLUNTEER FIRE
9 COMPANIES CONSOLIDATE THEIR USE OF FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT,
10 FIREFIGHTERS AND SERVICES, THE CONSOLIDATED ENTITY MAY, UPON
11 NOTIFICATION OF THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER, BE ELIGIBLE FOR A
12 REDUCTION OF THE INTEREST RATE PAYABLE ON ANY OUTSTANDING
13 PRINCIPAL BALANCE OWED, AS OF THE DATE OF CONSOLIDATION, BY ANY
14 OR ALL OF THE CONSOLIDATING COMPANIES TO THE [VOLUNTEER
15 COMPANIES LOAN FUND] FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN <--
16 ASSISTANCE FUND FOR LOANS MADE UNDER THE ACT OF JULY 15, 1976 <--
17 (P.L.1036, NO.208), KNOWN AS THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY,
18 AMBULANCE SERVICE AND RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE ACT, OR UNDER
19 SUBCHAPTER E OF CHAPTER 73 (RELATING TO [VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY,
20 AMBULANCE SERVICE AND RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE] FIRE AND
21 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM). THE <--
22 REDUCTION IN THE INTEREST RATE PAYABLE SHALL BE FROM 2% TO 1%.
23 UPON RECEIPT OF SUCH NOTIFICATION, THE [AGENCY, IN CONJUNCTION
24 WITH THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER,] COMMISSIONER SHALL DETERMINE
25 AND VERIFY THAT THE CONSOLIDATED ENTITY IS IN FACT A BONA FIDE
26 CONSOLIDATED VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY. IF THE [AGENCY]
27 COMMISSIONER DETERMINES THAT THE CONSOLIDATED ENTITY IS A BONA
28 FIDE CONSOLIDATED VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, [IT] THE COMMISSIONER
29 SHALL REDUCE THE INTEREST RATE PAYABLE ON ANY OUTSTANDING
30 PRINCIPAL BALANCE OWED TO THE [VOLUNTEER COMPANIES LOAN FUND] <--

1 FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ~~ASSISTANCE~~ FUND FOR
 2 LOANS MADE UNDER THE FORMER VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, AMBULANCE
 3 SERVICE AND RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE ACT, OR UNDER SUBCHAPTER E
 4 OF CHAPTER 73, FOR WHICH THE CONSOLIDATING COMPANIES OR THE
 5 CONSOLIDATED ENTITY MAY BE INDIVIDUALLY OR JOINTLY RESPONSIBLE.
 6 THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER MAY PROMULGATE SUCH RULES AND
 7 REGULATIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF
 8 THIS SECTION.

9 § 7821. ESTABLISHMENT.

10 THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM IS ESTABLISHED
 11 AND SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER. GRANTS
 12 PROVIDED UNDER THIS PROGRAM SHALL BE USED TO IMPROVE AND ENHANCE
 13 THE CAPABILITIES OF EMS [COMPANIES] TO PROVIDE AMBULANCE,
 14 EMERGENCY MEDICAL, BASIC LIFE SUPPORT AND ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT
 15 SERVICES.

16 § 7822. PUBLICATION AND NOTICE.

17 THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER SHALL PUBLISH NOTICE OF THE GRANT
 18 PROGRAM AVAILABILITY THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
 19 FOR PUBLICATION IN THE PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN[:

20 (1) WITHIN 30 DAYS OF JUNE 28, 2007, FOR THE FISCAL
 21 YEARS BEGINNING JULY 1, 2006, AND JULY 1, 2007; AND

22 (2)] BY AUGUST 8 FOR [FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING AFTER JUNE
 23 30, 2008] EACH FISCAL YEAR.

24 § 7823. AWARD OF GRANTS.

25 (A) AUTHORIZATION.--THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
 26 TO MAKE A GRANT AWARD TO EACH ELIGIBLE EMS COMPANY FOR THE
 27 FOLLOWING:

28 (1) CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION OF THE EMS COMPANY'S
 29 [FACILITY] FACILITIES AND PURCHASE OR REPAIR OF FIXTURES,
 30 FURNISHINGS, OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES NECESSARY

1 TO MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE THE CAPABILITY OF THE [AMBULANCE
2 SERVICE] SERVICES TO PROVIDE AMBULANCE, EMERGENCY MEDICAL,
3 BASIC LIFE SUPPORT AND ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT SERVICES.

4 (2) REPAIR OF AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT OR PURCHASE THEREOF.

5 (3) DEBT REDUCTION ASSOCIATED WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OR (2).

6 (4) TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF MEMBERS.

7 (5) EDUCATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC REGARDING COMMUNITY
8 RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMS.

9 (6) RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING, BUT
10 NOT LIMITED TO, PROGRAMS FOR MINORS.

11 (7) REVENUE LOSS FOR GRANTS ISSUED IN 2021 AND 2022.

12 * * *

13 (C) TIME FOR FILING APPLICATION AND DEPARTMENT ACTION.--

14 (1) [WITHIN 30 DAYS OF JUNE 28, 2007, FOR THE FISCAL
15 YEARS COMMENCING JULY 1, 2006, AND JULY 1, 2007, AND BY] BY
16 SEPTEMBER [1] 8 OF EACH YEAR [THEREAFTER], THE [AGENCY]
17 COMMISSIONER SHALL PROVIDE APPLICATIONS AND WRITTEN
18 INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRANTS UNDER THIS CHAPTER TO THE PRESIDENT
19 OR LEAD OFFICER OF EVERY EMS COMPANY IN THIS COMMONWEALTH.

20 (2) [WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF JUNE 28,
21 2007, FOR THE FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING JULY 1, 2006, AND JULY
22 1, 2007, AND BY SEPTEMBER 8 OF EACH YEAR, THE AGENCY SHALL
23 PROVIDE APPLICATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT OF EVERY EMS COMPANY.
24 THE APPLICATION FOR THE FISCAL YEARS COMMENCING JULY 1, 2006,
25 AND JULY 1, 2007, SHALL BE A COMBINED APPLICATION.] EMS
26 COMPANIES SEEKING GRANTS UNDER THIS CHAPTER SHALL SUBMIT
27 COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER. THE
28 APPLICATION PERIOD SHALL REMAIN OPEN FOR 45 DAYS EACH YEAR.
29 THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER SHALL ACT TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE
30 APPLICATIONS WITHIN 60 DAYS OF THE APPLICATION SUBMISSION

1 DEADLINE EACH YEAR. APPLICATIONS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED
2 OR DISAPPROVED BY THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER WITHIN 60 DAYS
3 AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE APPLICATION PERIOD EACH YEAR SHALL BE
4 DEEMED APPROVED.

5 SECTION 19. SUBCHAPTER C OF CHAPTER 78 OF TITLE 35 IS
6 AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:

7 § 7824. CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVE.

8 AFTER JANUARY 1, 2020, IF TWO OR MORE EMERGENCY MEDICAL
9 SERVICES COMPANIES CONSOLIDATE THEIR USE OF FACILITIES,
10 EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES, THE CONSOLIDATED ENTITY MAY, UPON
11 NOTIFICATION OF THE COMMISSIONER, BE ELIGIBLE FOR A REDUCTION OF
12 THE INTEREST RATE PAYABLE ON ANY OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL BALANCE
13 OWED, AS OF THE DATE OF CONSOLIDATION, BY ANY OR ALL OF THE
14 CONSOLIDATING COMPANIES TO THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL <--
15 SERVICES LOAN ~~ASSISTANCE~~ FUND FOR LOANS MADE UNDER SUBCHAPTER E <--
16 OF CHAPTER 73 (RELATING TO FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
17 LOAN ~~ASSISTANCE~~ PROGRAM). THE REDUCTION IN THE INTEREST RATE <--
18 PAYABLE SHALL BE FROM 2% TO 1%. UPON RECEIPT OF SUCH
19 NOTIFICATION, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL DETERMINE AND VERIFY THAT
20 THE CONSOLIDATED ENTITY IS IN FACT A BONA FIDE CONSOLIDATED
21 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY. IF THE COMMISSIONER
22 DETERMINES THAT THE CONSOLIDATED ENTITY IS A BONA FIDE
23 CONSOLIDATED EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY, THE
24 COMMISSIONER SHALL REDUCE THE INTEREST RATE PAYABLE ON ANY
25 OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL BALANCE OWED TO THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY <--
26 MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ~~ASSISTANCE~~ FUND FOR LOANS MADE UNDER <--
27 SUBCHAPTER E OF CHAPTER 73, FOR WHICH THE CONSOLIDATING
28 COMPANIES OR THE CONSOLIDATED ENTITY MAY BE INDIVIDUALLY OR
29 JOINTLY RESPONSIBLE. THE COMMISSIONER MAY PROMULGATE SUCH RULES
30 AND REGULATIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS

1 OF THIS SECTION.

2 SECTION 20. SECTIONS 7831, 7832, 7832.1, 7833, 7841 AND
3 7842(B) OF TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED TO READ:

4 § 7831. FIRE COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM.

5 THE SUM OF \$22,000,000 OF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED TO THE
6 [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER FOR FIRE COMPANY GRANTS UNDER SECTION
7 1799-E OF THE ACT OF APRIL 9, 1929 (P.L.343, NO.176), KNOWN AS
8 THE FISCAL CODE, SHALL BE EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING
9 GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE FIRE COMPANIES UNDER SUBCHAPTER B (RELATING
10 TO FIRE COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM) .

11 § 7832. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM.

12 THE SUM OF \$3,000,000 OF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED TO THE
13 [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER FOR EMS COMPANY GRANTS UNDER SECTION 1799-
14 E OF THE ACT OF APRIL 9, 1929 (P.L.343, NO.176), KNOWN AS THE
15 FISCAL CODE, SHALL BE EXPENDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING GRANTS
16 TO ELIGIBLE EMS COMPANIES UNDER SUBCHAPTER C (RELATING TO
17 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM) .

18 § 7832.1. ADDITIONAL FUNDING.

19 IN ADDITION TO SUMS TRANSFERRED FROM THE STATE GAMING FUND
20 AND UNDER SECTION 2413(A)(1) OF THE ACT OF MARCH 4, 1971 (P.L.6,
21 NO.2), KNOWN AS THE TAX REFORM CODE OF 1971, THE SUM OF
22 \$5,000,000 SHALL BE TRANSFERRED ANNUALLY FROM THE PROPERTY TAX
23 RELIEF RESERVE FUND TO THE FIRE COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE
24 PURPOSE OF MAKING GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE FIRE COMPANIES UNDER THIS
25 SUBCHAPTER.

26 § 7833. ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.

27 (A) ADMINISTRATION.--

28 (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2), NO MONEY
29 FROM THE APPROPRIATION FOR GRANTS SHALL BE USED FOR EXPENSES
30 OR COSTS INCURRED BY THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER FOR THE

1 ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED UNDER
2 SUBCHAPTERS B (RELATING TO FIRE COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM) AND C
3 (RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM) .

4 (2) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (1), THE COMMISSIONER MAY
5 USE NOT MORE THAN \$800,000 OF ANY UNENCUMBERED FUNDS
6 REMAINING IN THE FUND FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS FOR GRANT
7 PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION UNDER THIS CHAPTER.

8 (B) GRANT ALLOCATION.--UNLESS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY STATED,
9 MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER FOR PURPOSES OF
10 FIRE COMPANY AND EMS COMPANY GRANTS SHALL BE ALLOCATED AS
11 FOLLOWS:

12 (1) EIGHTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED
13 SHALL BE USED FOR MAKING GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE FIRE COMPANIES
14 UNDER SUBCHAPTER B.

15 (2) TWELVE PERCENT OF THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED SHALL BE
16 USED FOR MAKING GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE EMS COMPANIES UNDER
17 SUBCHAPTER C.

18 § 7841. EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.

19 THE AUTHORITY OF THE [AGENCY] COMMISSIONER TO AWARD GRANTS
20 UNDER SUBCHAPTERS B (RELATING TO FIRE COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM) AND
21 C (RELATING TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM) SHALL
22 EXPIRE [JUNE 30, 2020] JUNE 30, 2024.

23 § 7842. SPECIAL PROVISIONS.

24 * * *

25 (B) DELINQUENCY.--AN APPLICANT FOR A GRANT UNDER THIS
26 CHAPTER WHO IS DELINQUENT IN LOAN PAYMENTS TO THE PENNSYLVANIA
27 [VOLUNTEER LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THE ACT OF
28 JULY 15, 1976 (P.L.1036, NO.208), KNOWN AS THE VOLUNTEER FIRE
29 COMPANY, AMBULANCE SERVICE AND RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE ACT,]
30 FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM MUST <--

1 USE ITS GRANT FUNDS TO PAY ANY ARREARS TO THE COMMONWEALTH OR IT
2 WILL NOT BE QUALIFIED TO RECEIVE A GRANT. ANY ORGANIZATION THAT
3 FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM
4 APPLYING TO THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR A PERIOD OF [~~THREE~~] FIVE
5 YEARS.

6 * * *

7 SECTION 21. TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:
8 § 7843. ANNUAL REPORTS.

9 (A) CONTENTS.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PREPARE AN ANNUAL
10 REPORT ON THE FIRE COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL
11 SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM. THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL INCLUDE ALL OF
12 THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

13 (1) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRE COMPANIES AND EMS COMPANIES
14 THAT WERE NOTIFIED OF THE GRANT PROGRAMS.

15 (2) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRE COMPANIES AND EMS COMPANIES
16 THAT SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT PROGRAMS.

17 (3) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRE COMPANIES AND EMS COMPANIES
18 THAT WERE APPROVED FOR GRANTS.

19 (4) AN ANALYSIS OF HOW THE GRANTS WERE USED FOR
20 FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, DEBT REDUCTION, TRAINING AND
21 CERTIFICATION, THE EDUCATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC,
22 CONSTRUCTION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS AND RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION,
23 INCLUDING LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAMS, AS DELINEATED BY
24 COUNTY AND MUNICIPALITY.

25 (5) A LIST OF THE FIRE COMPANIES AS DELINEATED BY COUNTY
26 THAT RECEIVED ADDITIONAL GRANTS UNDER SECTION 7813(A.2)
27 (RELATING TO AWARD OF GRANTS).

28 (6) A LIST OF THE DIFFERENT ENTITIES THAT RECEIVED
29 GRANTS, INCLUDING ~~CAREER~~ MUNICIPAL FIRE COMPANIES, VOLUNTEER <--
30 FIRE COMPANIES, ~~CAREER~~ MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES <--

1 COMPANIES AND VOLUNTEER EMS COMPANIES.

2 (7) A LIST OF THE DIFFERENT REASONS WHY GRANTS WERE NOT
3 ISSUED TO FIRE COMPANIES AND EMS COMPANIES, INCLUDING, BUT
4 NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

5 (I) FAILURE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANT
6 PROGRAMS.

7 (II) FAILURE TO RUN CALLS FOR EMERGENCIES.

8 (III) DELINQUENCIES AND BANKRUPTCIES.

9 (8) A LIST OF THE FIRE COMPANIES AND EMS COMPANIES THAT
10 UTILIZED THE GRANTS TO PAY OFF LOANS UNDER THE PENNSYLVANIA
11 FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LOAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. <--

12 (B) SUBMISSION.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL SUBMIT THE ANNUAL
13 REPORT BY OCTOBER 1, 2020, AND BY OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR
14 THEREAFTER, TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

15 (1) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS
16 AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

17 (2) THE CHAIR AND MINORITY CHAIR OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS
18 AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES.

20 (C) POSTING.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL POST THE ANNUAL REPORT
21 ON THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER'S PUBLICLY
22 ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE.

23 SECTION 22. THE DEFINITIONS OF "GOVERNING BODY" AND
24 "MUNICIPALITY" IN SECTION 79A03 OF TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED TO READ:
25 § 79A03. DEFINITIONS.

26 THE FOLLOWING WORDS AND PHRASES WHEN USED IN THIS CHAPTER
27 SHALL HAVE THE MEANINGS GIVEN TO THEM IN THIS SECTION UNLESS THE
28 CONTEXT CLEARLY INDICATES OTHERWISE:

29 * * *

30 "GOVERNING BODY." A GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY, CITY

1 COUNCIL, BOROUGH COUNCIL, INCORPORATED TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD OF
2 TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS, BOARD OF TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS, GOVERNING
3 BODY OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT, GOVERNING COUNCIL OF A HOME RULE
4 MUNICIPALITY OR OPTIONAL PLAN MUNICIPALITY OR A GOVERNING
5 COUNCIL OF ANY SIMILAR PURPOSE GOVERNMENT WHICH MAY BE CREATED
6 BY STATUTE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION AND WHICH
7 HAS ADOPTED A TAX CREDIT UNDER THIS CHAPTER.

8 * * *

9 "MUNICIPALITY." ANY COUNTY, CITY, BOROUGH, INCORPORATED
10 TOWN, TOWNSHIP, HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY, OPTIONAL PLAN
11 MUNICIPALITY, OPTIONAL CHARTER MUNICIPALITY [OR ANY], SIMILAR
12 GENERAL PURPOSE UNIT OF GOVERNMENT WHICH MAY BE CREATED OR
13 AUTHORIZED BY STATUTE OR ANY SCHOOL DISTRICT.

14 * * *

15 SECTION 23. SECTION 79A11(A) AND (B), 79A13 AND 79A24(B) OF
16 TITLE 35 ARE AMENDED TO READ:

17 § 79A11. PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.

18 (A) ESTABLISHMENT.--A MUNICIPALITY THAT LEVIES AN EARNED
19 INCOME TAX MAY ESTABLISH BY ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION A TAX CREDIT
20 AGAINST AN INDIVIDUAL'S LIABILITY IMPOSED UNDER CHAPTER 3 OF THE
21 LOCAL TAX ENABLING ACT FOR ACTIVE SERVICE AS A VOLUNTEER.

22 (B) AMOUNT.--A MUNICIPALITY SHALL SET FORTH IN THE ORDINANCE
23 OR RESOLUTION THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT THAT WILL BE
24 OFFERED TO AN INDIVIDUAL. IF AN INDIVIDUAL'S EARNED INCOME TAX
25 LIABILITY IS LESS THAN THE AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT OFFERED, THE
26 INDIVIDUAL'S TAX CREDIT MUST EQUAL THE INDIVIDUAL'S TAX
27 LIABILITY.

28 * * *

29 § 79A13. REAL PROPERTY TAX CREDIT.

30 THE GOVERNING BODY OF A MUNICIPALITY MAY PROVIDE, BY

1 ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION, FOR A TAX CREDIT AGAINST REAL PROPERTY
2 TAX TO BE GRANTED TO AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER. THE TAX CREDIT SHALL
3 APPLY TO TAX LEVIED ON RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY OWNED AND
4 OCCUPIED BY AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER WHO IS CERTIFIED UNDER SECTION
5 79A23 (RELATING TO CERTIFICATION). THE AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT
6 AUTHORIZED BY AN ORDINANCE [SHALL NOT EXCEED 20%] OR RESOLUTION
7 MAY NOT EXCEED 100% OF THE TAX LIABILITY OF THE ACTIVE
8 VOLUNTEER.

9 § 79A24. REJECTION AND APPEAL.

10 * * *

11 (B) APPEAL.--AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO
12 APPEAL A CLAIM THAT HAS BEEN REJECTED BY A GOVERNING BODY. THE
13 GOVERNING BODY SHALL ESTABLISH, BY ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION, THE
14 PROCEDURE BY WHICH A REJECTED CLAIM CAN BE APPEALED.

15 SECTION 24. TITLE 35 IS AMENDED BY ADDING SECTIONS TO READ:

16 § 79A32. INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION.

17 A COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, CONSORTIUM OR OTHER SIMILAR ENTITY
18 OF WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY IS A MEMBER MAY PROVIDE FOR THE JOINT
19 CREATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF A VOLUNTEER SERVICE CREDIT
20 PROGRAM AND TAX CREDITS ADOPTED BY ITS MEMBERS. A GOVERNING BODY
21 MAY, BY ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION, DELEGATE TO THE ENTITY ITS
22 POWERS AND DUTIES UNDER SUBCH. C (RELATING TO VOLUNTEER SERVICE
23 CREDIT), INCLUDING THE PROCESS OF REJECTING AND APPEALING CLAIMS
24 UNDER SECTION 79A24 (RELATING TO REJECTION AND APPEAL).

25 § 79A33. DUTIES OF STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER.

26 THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER SHALL:

27 (1) ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR MUNICIPALITIES, VOLUNTEER
28 FIRE COMPANIES AND NONPROFIT EMS AGENCIES REGARDING THE TAX
29 CREDIT AND POST THE GUIDELINES ONLINE.

30 (2) REQUIRE MUNICIPALITIES AND ENTITIES UNDER THIS

1 SECTION TO NOTIFY THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER OF THE ADOPTION
2 OF A TAX CREDIT.

3 (3) PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE TAX CREDIT
4 AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS CHAPTER TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MINORITY
5 CHAIRMAN OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
6 COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY
7 PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WHICH
8 SHALL INCLUDE:

9 (I) EACH MUNICIPALITY THAT PROVIDES THE TAX CREDIT.

10 (II) THE AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT.

11 SECTION 25. THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
12 BEGINNING AFTER JUNE 30, 2020, AND ENDING BEFORE JULY 1, 2021:

13 (1) THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY TO FIRE COMPANY GRANTS
14 UNDER 35 PA.C.S. CH. 78 SUBCH. B:

15 (I) NOTWITHSTANDING 35 PA.C.S. § 7812, THE STATE
16 FIRE COMMISSIONER SHALL, WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF THE
17 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, TRANSMIT NOTICE OF THE
18 FIRE COMPANY GRANT PROGRAM AVAILABILITY TO THE
19 LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU FOR PUBLICATION IN THE
20 PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN.

21 (II) NOTWITHSTANDING 35 PA.C.S. § 7813(C), THE
22 FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

23 (A) WITHIN 15 DAYS OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF
24 THE NOTICE UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I), THE STATE FIRE
25 COMMISSIONER SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS FOR
26 GRANTS UNDER 35 PA.C.S. CH. 78 SUBCH. B TO:

27 (I) EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN SUBCLAUSE (II),
28 THE FIRE CHIEF AND PRESIDENT OF EVERY FIRE
29 COMPANY; OR

30 (II) IN THE CASE OF A MUNICIPAL FIRE

1 COMPANY, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE MUNICIPALITY.

2 (B) WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF
3 THE NOTICE UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I), THE STATE FIRE
4 COMMISSIONER SHALL PROVIDE APPLICATIONS TO
5 INDIVIDUALS SPECIFIED IN CLAUSE (A). FIRE COMPANIES
6 SEEKING GRANTS UNDER 35 PA.C.S. CH. 78 SUBCH. B SHALL
7 SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE FIRE
8 COMMISSIONER. THE APPLICATION PERIOD SHALL REMAIN
9 OPEN FOR 45 DAYS. THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER SHALL
10 ACT TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE APPLICATIONS WITHIN 60
11 DAYS OF THE APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE.
12 APPLICATIONS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR
13 DISAPPROVED BY THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER WITHIN 60
14 DAYS AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE APPLICATION PERIOD SHALL
15 BE DEEMED APPROVED.

16 (2) THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL
17 SERVICES GRANTS UNDER 35 PA.C.S. CH. 78 SUBCH. C:

18 (I) NOTWITHSTANDING 35 PA.C.S. § 7822, THE STATE
19 FIRE COMMISSIONER SHALL, WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF THE
20 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, TRANSMIT NOTICE OF THE
21 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM AVAILABILITY TO
22 THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU FOR PUBLICATION IN THE
23 PENNSYLVANIA BULLETIN.

24 (II) NOTWITHSTANDING 35 PA.C.S. § 7823(C), THE
25 FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

26 (A) WITHIN 15 DAYS OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF
27 THE NOTICE UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I), THE STATE FIRE
28 COMMISSIONER SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS FOR
29 GRANTS UNDER 35 PA.C.S. CH. 78 SUBCH. C TO THE
30 PRESIDENT OF EVERY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANY

1 IN THIS COMMONWEALTH.

2 (B) WITHIN 45 DAYS OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF
3 THE NOTICE UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I), THE STATE FIRE
4 COMMISSIONER SHALL PROVIDE APPLICATIONS TO
5 INDIVIDUALS SPECIFIED IN CLAUSE (A). EMERGENCY
6 MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES SEEKING GRANTS UNDER 35
7 PA.C.S. CH. 78 SUBCH. C SHALL SUBMIT COMPLETED
8 APPLICATIONS TO THE STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER. THE
9 APPLICATION PERIOD SHALL REMAIN OPEN FOR 45 DAYS. THE
10 STATE FIRE COMMISSIONER SHALL ACT TO APPROVE OR
11 DISAPPROVE APPLICATIONS WITHIN 60 DAYS OF THE
12 APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINE. APPLICATIONS WHICH
13 HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE STATE
14 FIRE COMMISSIONER WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE CLOSE OF
15 THE APPLICATION PERIOD SHALL BE DEEMED APPROVED.

16 SECTION 26. THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT AS FOLLOWS:

17 (1) THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS SHALL TAKE EFFECT
18 IMMEDIATELY:

19 (I) SECTION 25 OF THIS ACT.

20 (II) THIS SECTION.

21 (III) THE AMENDMENT OF 35 PA.C.S. § 7841.

22 (2) THE AMENDMENT OR ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING SHALL
23 TAKE EFFECT IN SIX MONTHS:

24 (I) 35 PA.C.S. CH. 74 SUBCH. B HEADING.

25 (II) 35 PA.C.S. § 7412.

26 (III) 35 PA.C.S. § 7413 INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH, (1),

27 (4) AND (6.1).

28 (IV) 35 PA.C.S. § 7416(A) AND (F) (13), (14), (19),
29 (20), (21), (22), (23), (24) AND (25).

30 (V) 35 PA.C.S. § 7418(B).

1 (VI) 35 PA.C.S. § 7419.1.

2 (3) THE AMENDMENT OF 35 PA.C.S. § 7383(C) SHALL TAKE
3 EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 2022.

4 (4) THE REMAINDER OF THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT IN 60
5 DAYS.