

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 146 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY BROOKS, SCARNATI, GORDNER, BROWNE, ARGALL, REGAN, ALLOWAY, AUMENT, FOLMER, HUTCHINSON, KILLION, MARTIN, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, VOGEL, J. WARD, K. WARD, YAW, COSTA, DINNIMAN, KEARNEY, SANTARSIERO, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE AND MUTH, JANUARY 31, 2019

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, APRIL 30, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in Commonwealth services, providing
3 for online training for firefighters; AND MAKING A RELATED <--
4 REPEAL.

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

7 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 7388. Online training for firefighters.

10 ~~(a) General rule. Under section 2413 of the act of March 4, <--
11 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, the
12 Office of the State Fire Commissioner shall establish guidelines
13 for the use of money deposited into the Online Training Educator
14 and Training Reimbursement Account and dedicated for the
15 purposes of developing, delivering and sustaining training
16 programs for firefighters. The guidelines shall provide that the
17 money be used for online training for volunteer firefighters~~

1 ~~and, notwithstanding the deposit for only volunteer firefighters~~
2 ~~under section 2413(a)(2) of the Tax Reform Code of 1971, career~~
3 ~~firefighters and shall include, at a minimum, the following:~~

4 (A) DUTY TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL <--
5 ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPING, DELIVERING AND SUSTAINING
6 TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND CAREER
7 FIREFIGHTERS. THE GUIDELINES SHALL INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM, THE
8 FOLLOWING:

9 (1) Participation in the training shall be on a
10 voluntary basis.

11 (2) The training shall be offered free of charge.

12 (3) The training shall be incorporated into the Train PA
13 system OR ANY OTHER SYSTEM APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER. <--

14 (b) Prioritization.--In establishing online training
15 courses, the commissioner shall prioritize specific topics.

16 (c) Certificate of completion.--The commissioner shall
17 provide a certificate of completion to an individual who
18 successfully completes an online training program.

19 (d) Publication.--The Office of the State Fire Commissioner
20 shall post a complete listing of the available online training
21 courses on the office's publicly accessible Internet website.

22 (E) FUNDING.--THE COMMISSIONER SHALL USE MONEY IN THE ONLINE <--
23 TRAINING EDUCATOR AND TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED
24 UNDER SECTION 2413(A)(2) OF THE ACT OF MARCH 4, 1971 (P.L.6,
25 NO.2), KNOWN AS THE TAX REFORM CODE OF 1971, FOR THE PURPOSE OF
26 ADMINISTERING THIS SECTION.

27 (F) REPORTING.--BY DECEMBER 31 EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSIONER
28 SHALL PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT DETAILING THE USE OF THE ONLINE
29 TRAINING EDUCATOR AND TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT FROM THE
30 PRIOR FISCAL YEAR TO THE CHAIRPERSON AND MINORITY CHAIRPERSON OF

1 THE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, THE
2 CHAIRPERSON AND MINORITY CHAIRPERSON OF THE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
3 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, THE CHAIRPERSON
4 AND MINORITY CHAIRPERSON OF THE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS
5 COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE VETERANS
6 AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF
7 REPRESENTATIVES.

8 SECTION 2. REPEALS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

9 (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT THE REPEALS UNDER
10 PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) ARE NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THIS ACT.

11 (2) SECTION 2413(A)(3) OF THE ACT OF MARCH 4, 1971
12 (P.L.6, NO.2), KNOWN AS THE TAX REFORM CODE OF 1971, IS
13 REPEALED.

14 (3) SECTION 2413(A)(2) OF THE TAX REFORM CODE OF 1971 IS
15 REPEALED TO THE EXTENT OF ANY INCONSISTENCY WITH THIS ACT.

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

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