
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1246 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY REGAN, VOGEL, ARNOLD, PHILLIPS-HILL, STREET,
MARTIN, KILLION, BAKER, SCHWANK, BREWSTER, YUDICHAK, J. WARD,
MASTRIANO, SCAVELLO AND BROWNE, AUGUST 14, 2020

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
AUGUST 14, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in employees, providing for medals
3 honoring law enforcement officers.

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

6 Section 1. Chapter 21 of Title 53 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subchapter to read:

8 SUBCHAPTER F

9 MEDALS HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

10 Sec.

11 2191. Establishment of program.

12 2192. Medal procedure.

13 2193. Form of medals.

14 § 2191. Establishment of program.

15 A program is established for the Governor to recognize and
16 decorate law enforcement officers in this Commonwealth who have
17 demonstrated bravery, sacrifice or other exceptionally

1 meritorious conduct in the line of duty. The Municipal Police
2 Officers' Education and Training Commission established in
3 Subchapter D (relating to municipal police education and
4 training) shall assist the Governor in the administration of the
5 program by establishing the qualifications, protocol and other
6 rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.
7 § 2192. Medal procedure.

8 (a) Nominees.--A member of the Pennsylvania State Police or
9 a police officer of a police department as defined in section
10 2162 (relating to definitions) may be nominated for a medal
11 under this subchapter.

12 (b) Application.--An application that nominates a law
13 enforcement officer for a medal may be submitted to the
14 Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission by
15 the Governor, a member of the General Assembly, the Commissioner
16 of Pennsylvania State Police, a county sheriff or the chief
17 executive of a municipality or police department.

18 (c) Review and issuance of medals.--The Municipal Police
19 Officers' Education and Training Commission shall review an
20 application's veracity and conformance to the criteria of the
21 program and notify the Governor of the applications that are in
22 compliance. The final decision to issue a medal under this
23 subchapter shall rest with the Governor. The Governor may
24 delegate to the Lieutenant Governor or a member of the General
25 Assembly the act of presenting a medal.

26 § 2193. Form of medals.

27 (a) General rule.--The medals authorized under the program
28 shall be in the following forms:

29 (1) Blue Star of Valor, which may be awarded to law
30 enforcement officers who have shown exceptional gallantry,

1 heroism and bravery in the face of life-threatening
2 circumstances above and beyond the call of duty.

3 (2) Blue Heart, which may be issued to law enforcement
4 officers injured in the line of duty.

5 (3) Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice, which shall be issued
6 posthumously to law enforcement officers who have fallen in
7 the line of duty.

8 (b) Design.--The design of each medal shall be approved by
9 the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training
10 Commission. Each medal shall be cast in bronze or other metal
11 and the design shall incorporate the seal of the Commonwealth.

12 (c) Cost.--The cost of a medal shall be paid by the
13 Pennsylvania State Police or the police department by which the
14 law enforcement officer is or was employed. The family of a
15 medal recipient may request a second medal and may receive the
16 medal upon payment to the Municipal Police Officers' Education
17 and Training Commission of the cost of the medal.

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