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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1445 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY CAUSER, BOBACK, BROOKS, CIRESI, SCHLEGEL CULVER,  
FARRY, GAYDOS, GILLESPIE, HAMM, HELM, KNOWLES, LEWIS  
DELROSSO, M. MACKENZIE, MOUL, PICKETT, ROTHMAN, ROWE, SMITH,  
STRUZZI, THOMAS, TWARDZIK, WARNER AND ZIMMERMAN, MAY 20, 2021

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, MAY 20, 2021

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), entitled  
2 "An act relating to the finances of the State government;  
3 providing for cancer control, prevention and research, for  
4 ambulatory surgical center data collection, for the Joint  
5 Underwriting Association, for entertainment business  
6 financial management firms, for private dam financial  
7 assurance and for reinstatement of item vetoes; providing for  
8 the settlement, assessment, collection, and lien of taxes,  
9 bonus, and all other accounts due the Commonwealth, the  
10 collection and recovery of fees and other money or property  
11 due or belonging to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,  
12 including escheated property and the proceeds of its sale,  
13 the custody and disbursement or other disposition of funds  
14 and securities belonging to or in the possession of the  
15 Commonwealth, and the settlement of claims against the  
16 Commonwealth, the resettlement of accounts and appeals to the  
17 courts, refunds of moneys erroneously paid to the  
18 Commonwealth, auditing the accounts of the Commonwealth and  
19 all agencies thereof, of all public officers collecting  
20 moneys payable to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,  
21 and all receipts of appropriations from the Commonwealth,  
22 authorizing the Commonwealth to issue tax anticipation notes  
23 to defray current expenses, implementing the provisions of  
24 section 7(a) of Article VIII of the Constitution of  
25 Pennsylvania authorizing and restricting the incurring of  
26 certain debt and imposing penalties; affecting every  
27 department, board, commission, and officer of the State  
28 government, every political subdivision of the State, and  
29 certain officers of such subdivisions, every person,  
30 association, and corporation required to pay, assess, or  
31 collect taxes, or to make returns or reports under the laws

1 imposing taxes for State purposes, or to pay license fees or  
2 other moneys to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,  
3 every State depository and every debtor or creditor of the  
4 Commonwealth," in additional special funds and restricted  
5 accounts, providing for COVID-19 response transfers for  
6 assistance to the Commonwealth's emergency medical services.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), known  
10 as The Fiscal Code, is amended by adding a section to read:

11 Section 1739-A.1. COVID-19 response transfers for assistance to  
12 the Commonwealth's emergency medical services.

13 (a) Transfers.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law  
14 to the contrary and in addition to any other money appropriated  
15 to the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund, the Secretary  
16 of the Budget shall transfer the sum of \$5,500,000 from money  
17 received by the Commonwealth under Title IX, Subtitle M, Section  
18 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2,  
19 135 Stat. 4) to the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund.

20 (b) Appropriation.--The money transferred under subsection  
21 (a) shall be appropriated to the Department of Health for the  
22 purposes of disbursement in accordance with 35 Pa.C.S. § 8153  
23 (relating to support of emergency medical services). This  
24 appropriation shall not lapse.

25 (c) Deficit.--The Secretary of the Budget may not make the  
26 transfer under subsection (a) if the transfer would result in a  
27 deficit in any of the funds.

28 (d) (Reserved).

29 (e) Report.--No later than September 30, 2021, the Secretary  
30 of the Budget shall provide a report detailing all spending  
31 related to the COVID-19 response the Commonwealth has made under  
32 this section, including the name of each recipient of funds and  
33 the dollar amount issued. The Secretary of the Budget shall

1 provide the report to the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of  
2 the Senate, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the House  
3 of Representatives, the chairperson and minority chairperson of  
4 the Appropriations Committee of the Senate, the chairperson and  
5 minority chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the  
6 House of Representatives, the chairperson and minority  
7 chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness  
8 Committee of the Senate and the chairperson and minority  
9 chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness  
10 Committee of the House of Representatives.

11 (f) Expiration.--The authority to transfer funds under  
12 subsection (a) shall expire September 30, 2021.

13 (g) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
14 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
15 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

16 "COVID-19." The novel coronavirus as identified in the  
17 Governor's Proclamation of Disaster Emergency issued on March 6,  
18 2020.

19 "Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund." The Emergency  
20 Medical Services Operating Fund established under 35 Pa.C.S. §  
21 8153.

22 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.