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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1972 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, GUENST, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, PENNYCUICK,  
C. WILLIAMS, POLINCHOCK, OBERLANDER, SCHLEGEL CULVER,  
T. DAVIS, FLOOD, LEWIS DELROSSO AND SHUSTERMAN,  
OCTOBER 13, 2021

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, OCTOBER 13, 2021

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in State Veterans' Commission and  
3 Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans' Affairs, further  
4 providing for definitions and providing for veterans' homes.

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

7 Section 1. Section 1701 of Title 51 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 1701. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter  
11 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Commission." The State Veterans' Commission established by  
14 this chapter.

15 "Community-based palliative care." Nonhospital specialized  
16 medical care for people living with a serious illness provided  
17 through clinics, nursing and other assisted care facilities and

1 in private homes which focuses on providing patients with relief  
2 from the symptoms and stress of the illness to improve quality  
3 of life for both the patient and the family.

4 Section 2. Chapter 17 of Title 51 is amended by adding a  
5 subchapter to read:

6 SUBCHAPTER E

7 VETERANS' HOMES

8 Sec.

9 1741. Community-based palliative care program.

10 § 1741. Community-based palliative care program.

11 (a) Establishment.--The Veterans' Affairs Community-Based  
12 Palliative Care Program is established within the department.

13 (b) Authorization.--The department is authorized to  
14 administer community-based palliative care services in a  
15 veterans' home or with a partner in a related health care  
16 facility licensed by the Department of Health for the provision  
17 of community-based palliative care services.

18 (c) Funding.--The department may utilize funding  
19 appropriated by the General Assembly for the purposes provided  
20 for under this section.

21 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.