
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 160 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY REGAN, VOGEL, ARGALL, AUMENT, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA,
BROOKS, BROWNE, DiSANTO, DUSH, GORDNER, HUTCHINSON,
LANGERHOLC, LAUGHLIN, MARTIN, MASTRIANO, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-
HILL, PITTMAN, ROBINSON, SANTARSIERO, SCAVELLO, SCHWANK,
STEFANO, TOMLINSON, J. WARD, K. WARD, YUDICHAK, YAW AND
CORMAN, FEBRUARY 2, 2021

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
FEBRUARY 2, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in employees, providing for medals
3 honoring emergency medical services personnel.

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 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL

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 emergency medical services personnel in this

1 Commonwealth who have demonstrated bravery, sacrifice or other
2 exceptionally meritorious conduct in the line of duty. The
3 director shall assist the Governor in the administration of the
4 program by establishing the qualifications, protocol and other
5 rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.
6 The director may consult with the Emergency Health Services
7 Council to aid in carrying out the purposes of this subchapter.
8 § 2192. Medal procedure.

9 (a) Nominees.--A member of an emergency medical services
10 agency may be nominated for a medal under this subchapter.

11 (b) Application.--An application that nominates a member of
12 an emergency medical services agency for a medal may be
13 submitted to the director by the Governor, a member of the
14 General Assembly or the chief executive of a municipality or
15 emergency medical services agency.

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

23 § 2193. Form of medals.

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

26 (1) Star of Life, which may be awarded to members of an
27 emergency medical services agency who have shown exceptional
28 gallantry, heroism and bravery in the face of life-
29 threatening circumstances above and beyond the call of duty.

30 (2) White Heart, which may be issued to members of an

1 emergency medical services agency injured in the line of
2 duty.

3 (3) Medal of Ultimate Sacrifice, which shall be issued
4 posthumously to members of an emergency medical services
5 agency who have fallen in the line of duty.

6 (b) Design.--The design of each medal shall be approved by
7 the director. Each medal shall be cast in bronze or other metal,
8 and the design shall incorporate the seal of the Commonwealth.

9 (c) Cost.--The cost of a medal shall be paid by the
10 emergency medical services agency by which the member of the
11 emergency medical services agency is or was employed or
12 volunteered. The family of a medal recipient may request a
13 second medal and may receive the medal upon payment to the
14 Bureau of Emergency Medical Services of the Department of Health
15 of the cost of the medal.

16 (d) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
17 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
18 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

19 "Director." The Director of the Bureau of Emergency Medical
20 Services of the Department of Health.

21 "Emergency medical services agency." As defined in 35
22 Pa.C.S. § 8103 (relating to definitions).

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