
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 158 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, YAW, YUDICHAK 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 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

1 demonstrated bravery, sacrifice or other exceptionally
2 meritorious conduct in the line of duty. The Municipal Police
3 Officers' Education and Training Commission established in
4 Subchapter D (relating to municipal police education and
5 training) shall assist the Governor in the administration of the
6 program by establishing the qualifications, protocol and other
7 rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.
8 § 2192. Medal procedure.

9 (a) Nominees.--A member of the Pennsylvania State Police,
10 sheriff, as defined in 18 Pa.C.S. § 6102 (relating to
11 definitions), or deputy sheriff or a police officer of a police
12 department as defined in section 2162 (relating to definitions)
13 may be nominated for a medal under this subchapter.

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

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

28 § 2193. Form of medals.

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

1 (1) Blue Star of Valor, which may be awarded to law
2 enforcement officers who have shown exceptional gallantry,
3 heroism and bravery in the face of life-threatening
4 circumstances above and beyond the call of duty.

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

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

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

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

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