

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 119 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY MARSHALL, BAKER, CAUSER, CONKLIN, DAVIS, FABRIZIO, HACKETT, HAHN, HARHART, C. HARRIS, HESS, HICKERNELL, KAUFFMAN, KNOWLES, KORTZ, MAJOR, MCCARTER, MCNEILL, MICOZZIE, MILLARD, MUSTIO, O'NEILL, PAYNE, PICKETT, READSHAW, SACCONI, SIMMONS, TAYLOR, YOUNGBLOOD, CALTAGIRONE, P. DALEY, FLECK, WHITE AND PETRI, JANUARY 16, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, JANUARY 16, 2013

AN ACT

1 Establishing an emergency medical services memorial flag; and  
 2 imposing duties on the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services  
 3 Council and the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services in the  
 4 Department of Health.

5 WHEREAS, The provision of an emergency medical services  
 6 memorial flag is a small but important act by Commonwealth  
 7 government to signify its thanks and recognition for the  
 8 sacrifice of a life in service to the citizens of this  
 9 Commonwealth; and

10 WHEREAS, The General Assembly enacts this legislation on  
 11 behalf of all Commonwealth citizens to honor emergency medical  
 12 services personnel who have died in the line of duty.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. Emergency medical services memorial flag.

16 (a) Establishment.--An emergency medical services memorial

1 flag is established for this Commonwealth.

2 (b) Description.--The flag established in subsection (a)  
3 shall be created by the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services in  
4 the Department of Health in cooperation with the Pennsylvania  
5 Emergency Health Services Council.

6 Section 2. Use of flag.

7 The emergency medical services memorial flag may be displayed  
8 over emergency medical service memorials, emergency medical  
9 service funeral processions and from the poles of any public  
10 ground or political subdivision for a period of not more than  
11 seven days after the death of a member of any emergency medical  
12 service, and as further directed by the Director of Emergency  
13 Medical Services in the Department of Health.

14 Section 3. Agency responsibility.

15 The Bureau of Emergency Medical Services in the Department of  
16 Health shall maintain the official flag and have the  
17 responsibility to implement the provisions of this act and  
18 oversee the production, acquisition and distribution of the  
19 flag.

20 Section 4. Limitation.

21 Authorized utilization of the emergency medical services  
22 memorial flag by the Commonwealth or an entity of the  
23 Commonwealth shall not constitute a presumption of eligibility  
24 or be admissible as evidence for a claim under the act of June  
25 24, 1976 (P.L.424, No.101), referred to as the Emergency and Law  
26 Enforcement Personnel Death Benefits Act.

27 Section 5. Effective date.

28 This act shall take effect in 60 days.