

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 245 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY TALLMAN, W. KELLER, D. COSTA, READSHAW, GILLESPIE, ROZZI, BIZZARRO, SIMMONS, SCHWEYER, MURT, M. QUINN, RADER, MILLARD AND HENNESSEY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 28, 1935 (P.L.477, No.193), entitled,
 2 as amended, "An act providing for the payment of the salary,
 3 medical and hospital expenses of certain employes of State
 4 and local government who are injured or contract certain
 5 diseases in the performance of their duty; and providing that
 6 absence during such injury shall not reduce any usual sick
 7 leave period," providing for the care of police animals
 8 injured in the line of duty.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. The act of June 28, 1935 (P.L.477, No.193),
 12 referred to as the Enforcement Officer Disability Benefits Law,
 13 is amended by adding a section to read:

14 Section 1.1. (a) A police animal shall be provided
 15 veterinary and medical care for any injury suffered in the
 16 performance of its duties. Veterinary and medical care includes,
 17 but is not limited to, ambulatory care, including an air
 18 ambulance, ongoing care and medical devices. In no event shall
 19 the use of an air ambulance for a police animal take precedence
 20 over a human similarly situated at the time the air ambulance is

1 needed, unless the air ambulance is already engaged in transport
2 of the police animal.

3 (b) The term "police animal" shall have the same meaning as
4 provided in 18 Pa.C.S. § 5511.2 (relating to police animals).

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 30 days.