

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 43 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS, TEPLITZ, BREWSTER, FONTANA, WILEY, STACK, BLAKE, SCHWANK, COSTA, BOSCOLA, HUGHES, FOLMER, TARTAGLIONE, SMITH, FARNESE, STEFANO AND RAFFERTY, JANUARY 14, 2015

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JANUARY 14, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
 2 Consolidated Statutes, in proprietary and official rights,
 3 further providing for wearing of uniforms and insignia.

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

6 Section 1. Section 6701 of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania
 7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 6701. [Wearing of uniforms and insignia] Uniforms, insignia
 9 and military decorations or medals.

10 [A] (a) Offense defined.--Except as provided under
 11 subsection (b), a person is guilty of a summary offense if,
 12 without authority, he:

13 (1) wears or displays the uniform, decoration, insignia
 14 or other distinctive emblem of any branch of the armed forces
 15 of the United States or of any of the several states, or of
 16 any association, for the purpose of obtaining aid or profit,
 17 or while soliciting contributions or subscriptions; or

1 (2) wears an honorable discharge button issued or
2 authorized by the United States.

3 (b) False claims about receipt of military decorations or
4 medals.--

5 (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), a person
6 commits a misdemeanor of the third degree if the person
7 falsely represents himself verbally or in writing to have
8 been awarded any decoration or medal authorized by the
9 Congress of the United States for the armed forces of the
10 United States, any of the service medals or badges awarded to
11 the members of the armed forces of the United States, the
12 ribbon, button or rosette of any badge, decoration or medal
13 or any colorable imitation of the item with the intent to
14 commit fraud, obtain employment or be elected to public
15 office. Each violation shall constitute a separate offense.

16 (2) (i) If a decoration or medal involved in an offense
17 under paragraph (1) is any of the following, the person
18 commits a misdemeanor of the second degree:

19 (A) The Congressional Medal of Honor.

20 (B) The Distinguished Service Cross.

21 (C) A Navy Cross.

22 (D) An Air Force Cross.

23 (E) A Silver Star Medal.

24 (F) A Purple Heart.

25 (G) Any replacement or duplicate medal for
26 medals listed under clauses (A), (B), (C), (D), (E)
27 and (F).

28 (ii) Each violation under this paragraph shall
29 constitute a separate offense.

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