

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 531 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, BROOKS, PENNYCUICK, BARTOLOTTA, ROBINSON, BREWSTER AND COSTA, MARCH 15, 2023

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in State Veterans' Commission and
3 Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans' Affairs, further
4 providing for Veterans' Trust Fund.

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

7 Section 1. Section 1721 of Title 51 of the Pennsylvania
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subsection to read:
9 § 1721. Veterans' Trust Fund.

10 * * *

11 (e.1) Grant Evaluation Committee.--The Grant Evaluation
12 Committee is established within the department and the following
13 shall apply:

- 14 (1) The Grant Evaluation Committee shall:
15 (i) Review and evaluate applications for grants
16 provided under this subchapter.
17 (ii) Provide recommendations on the use of funds
18 under this subchapter to the Adjutant General.
19 (2) The review and evaluation of applications for grants

1 provided under this subchapter and the making of
2 recommendations for the use of funding under this subchapter
3 performed by individuals pursuant to the statement of policy
4 for the maintenance and use of the fund required under
5 subsection (e) prior to the effective date of this subsection
6 shall be performed by the Grant Evaluation Committee as
7 provided under paragraph (1).

8 ~~(3) The Grant Evaluation Committee shall be comprised of <--~~
9 ~~members appointed by the Adjutant General, the chairperson~~
10 ~~and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and~~
11 ~~Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Senate and the~~
12 ~~chairperson and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs~~
13 ~~and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the House of~~
14 ~~Representatives.~~

15 (3) THE GRANT EVALUATION COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPRISED OF <--
16 THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

17 (I) FIVE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE ADJUTANT GENERAL,
18 INCLUDING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE
19 VETERANS COMMISSION OR A DESIGNEE, THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE
20 PENNSYLVANIA WAR VETERANS COUNCIL OR A DESIGNEE AND A
21 COUNTY DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

22 (II) ONE VETERAN APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT PRO
23 TEMPORE OF THE SENATE.

24 (III) ONE VETERAN APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER
25 OF THE SENATE.

26 (IV) ONE VETERAN APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE
27 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

28 (V) ONE VETERAN APPOINTED BY THE MINORITY LEADER OF
29 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

30 * * *

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