

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 623 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY MUTH, BROOKS, L. WILLIAMS, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE,
PENNYCUICK, COMMITTA, KANE, SAVAL, COSTA AND MASTRIANO,
APRIL 11, 2025

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
APRIL 11, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, further
3 providing for definitions; in Commonwealth services, further
4 providing for definitions; and, in emergency responder mental
5 wellness and stress management, further providing for
6 definitions.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 7102 of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania
10 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a definition to read:
11 § 7102. Definitions.

12 The following words and phrases when used in this part shall
13 have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the
14 meanings given to them in this section:

15 * * *

16 "Telecommunicator." As follows:

17 (1) An individual employed by a public safety answering
18 point or PSAP, as defined in section 5302 (relating to
19 definitions), whose primary responsibility is to receive,

1 process, transmit or dispatch emergency and nonemergency
2 calls for emergency medical, fire and rescue, law enforcement
3 or other public safety services via telephone, radio or other
4 communication device.

5 (2) The term includes a call taker, emergency dispatcher
6 and supervisor.

7 * * *

8 Section 2. The definition of "emergency responder" in
9 section 7332 of Title 35 is amended to read:

10 § 7332. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter
12 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 * * *

15 "Emergency responder." An individual in the public or
16 private sector who has special skills, qualifications, training,
17 knowledge or experience, whether or not the person possesses a
18 license, certificate, permit or other official recognition for
19 the skills, qualifications, training, knowledge or experience,
20 that would benefit a participating political subdivision in
21 responding to an authorized mutual aid request or participating
22 in an authorized drill or exercise. The term shall include a law
23 enforcement officer, a firefighter, an emergency medical
24 services worker, a telecommunicator, a physician, nurse or other
25 public health worker, an emergency management official, a
26 coroner or medical examiner, a State-certified hazardous
27 materials team member, a public works worker, a building
28 inspector, an architect, an engineer or other design
29 professional or a person with specialized equipment operations
30 skills or training or with any other skills needed to provide

1 aid in a declared emergency.

2 * * *

3 Section 3. The definition of "emergency responder" in
4 section 75A01 of Title 35 is amended to read:

5 § 75A01. Definitions.

6 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
7 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
8 context clearly indicates otherwise:

9 * * *

10 "Emergency responder." Any of the following:

11 (1) A current or former certified emergency medical
12 services provider, current or former member of an emergency
13 medical services agency, fire company or rescue company.

14 (2) A peace officer.

15 (3) A [911 dispatcher] telecommunicator.

16 (4) A coroner or medical examiner who responds in an
17 official capacity to an emergency.

18 (5) A corrections officer.

19 * * *

20 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.