



## SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

### Senate Bill 1226 Printer's No. 1756

Prime Sponsor: Vulakovich  
Committee: Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

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#### **SYNOPSIS:**

SB 1226 would amend Title 51 (Military Affairs Code) by aligning the Veterans Trust Fund and the Veterans Temporary Assistance Program.

#### **SUMMARY:**

SB 1226 would:

- \*Allow any charitable organization with the primary mission that serves veterans to be eligible for grant funding.
- \*Allow the Department to use funds to sponsor training or informational programs for veterans with the limitation that only up to 10 percent of the balance in the fund are used for this purpose.
- \*Allow the Department to solicit and accept donations from foundations, tax-exempt organizations, and estates – in addition to donations from individuals.
- \*Change the name of the “Veterans Emergency Assistance Program” to the “Veterans Temporary Assistance Program.”
- \*Change or add definitions for Eligible Veteran, Necessities of Living, Need for Temporary Assistance, and Program.
- \*Require veterans or surviving dependents of veterans to be permanent residents of the Commonwealth – demonstrate they are not receiving sufficient funds from any other state or federal programs – demonstrate an immediate need - and provide documentation for temporary assistance.
- \*Stipulate that the maximum amount available is lesser of assistance under the Public Welfare Code or the veterans documented amount of need.
- \*Stipulate that no person shall receive more than the maximum amount in a 12-month period.
- \*Provide that the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs administer the funding under the Veterans Temporary Assistance Program and make reports to the State Veterans Commission.
- \*Ban the use of payment via Relief Order.
- \*Allow veterans to appeal to the Adjutant General if denied.

Effective Date: July 1, 2016, or immediately, whichever is later.

#### **BILL HISTORY:**

The Veterans Trust Fund was created as a result of Act 194 of 2012.

Prepared by: N. Silcox 5/10/2016