



## SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

### House Bill 165 Printer's No. 129

Prime Sponsor: Saccone  
Committee: Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

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#### **SYNOPSIS:**

Creates two military decorations.

#### **SUMMARY:**

House Bill 165 would amend Title 51 (Military Affairs) by:

\*Creating the "Pennsylvania Achievement Medal."

\*Creating the "Pennsylvania Veterans Service Award."

\*Allowing the Governor to present the Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Medal - which is for "meritorious service beyond the normal dictates of duty to this Commonwealth" - to veterans and civilians. It is currently only open to active members of the Armed Forces, National Guard, and Reserves.

\*Allowing the Governor to present the Pennsylvania Meritorious Service Medal - which is for "meritorious service rendered this Commonwealth and while holding a position of great responsibility" - to veterans. It is currently only open to active members of the Armed Forces, National Guard, and Reserves.

\*Allowing the Adjutant General to issue guidelines - in addition to regulations - to establish the qualifications for awarding the medals; such other decorations, medals, badges, or awards; and specifications and designs for decorations, medals, badges, and awards.

Effective Date: 60 Days

#### **BILL HISTORY:**

HB 165 was passed by the House 185-12 on March 21, 2017. In the 2015-16 Session, HB 1727 passed the House 195-2 and was unanimously reported as committed by the Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee.

Prepared by: N. Silcox 3/27/2017