



SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

Senate Resolution 6 Printer's No. 149

Prime Sponsor: Vulakovich
Committee: Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

SYNOPSIS:

Senate Resolution 6 would establish a Special Commission to study Fire and EMS issues.

SUMMARY:

SR 6 would establish a special bipartisan, bicameral legislative commission to recommend improvements to the delivery of emergency services in this Commonwealth and develop and promote legislation in furtherance of its recommendations.

The Commission would be made up 38 members as follows:

- (1) Chairperson and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Senate or designees.
- (2) Chairperson and minority chairperson of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee of the House of Representatives or designees.
- (3) Two co-chairs of the Firefighter and Emergency Services Caucus in the Senate or designees.
- (4) Two co-chairs of the Firefighter and Emergency Services Caucus in the House of Representatives or designees.
- (5) State Fire Commissioner or a designee.
- (6) Director of the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services of the Department of Health.
- (7) President of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania or a designee.
- (8) President of the Pennsylvania Municipal League or a designee.
- (9) President of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs or a designee.
- (10) President of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners or a designee.
- (11) President of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors or a designee.
- (12) President of the Pennsylvania Council of Governments or a designee.
- (13) President of the Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute or a designee.
- (14) President of the Firemen's Association of the State of Pennsylvania or a designee.
- (15) Four members of a county firemen's association, one each from a county in the west, central, east and southeast regions of this Commonwealth.
- (16) President of the Pennsylvania Professional Firefighters Association or a designee.
- (17) President of the Pennsylvania Career Fire Chiefs Association.
- (18) President of the Pennsylvania Association of Hazardous Materials Technicians.
- (19) Two fire chiefs of volunteer fire companies in Pennsylvania, one of whom shall be selected by the President pro tempore of the Senate and one of whom shall be selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

- (20) Two fire chiefs of municipal fire companies in Pennsylvania, one of whom shall be selected by the President pro tempore of the Senate and one of whom shall be selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (21) The president of the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council or a designee.
- (22) The president of the Ambulance Association of Pennsylvania or a designee.
- (23) Seven fire or emergency medical services members at large.

The Commission would:

- (1) Elect a chair from its membership.
- (2) Develop and recommend legislation to improve the delivery of emergency services.
- (3) Hold hearings, take testimony and make its investigations at such places as it deems necessary in this Commonwealth.
- (4) Be assisted by the Legislative Budget and Finance Commission on the final report.
- (5) Make a final report by June 30, 2018.
- (6) Serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for all necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Reasonable expenses incurred by the commission be equally divided between the Senate and the House of Representatives upon approval by the Committee Chairmen.

Effective Date: Immediately

BILL HISTORY:

SR 60 of 2003 created a Special Commission that produced 23 recommendations in 2004. The Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee accepted those recommendations 2005 and many of the recommendations were either implemented or acted upon to varying degrees of success.

Prepared by: Silcox 1/24/2017