



SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 552 Printer's No. 589

Prime Sponsor: Aument
Committee: Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

SYNOPSIS:

Creates the Pennsylvania Veterans' Monuments and Memorial Trust Fund.

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 552 would amend Title 51 (Military Affairs) by:

- *Establishing a separate fund in the State Treasury to be known as the Pennsylvania Veterans' Monuments and Memorial Trust Fund.
- *Charging the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs with the administration of the Fund.
- *Requiring the State Veterans' Commission with assisting the Department with the Fund.
- *Requiring the Fund to be used for the promotion, administration, operation, maintenance, and completion of the monuments and memorials dedicated to Pennsylvania veterans and military units and other costs incidental thereto as approved by the Department.
- *Authorizing the Department to accept gifts, donations, legacies, and usages of money from individuals, organizations, public or private corporations and other similar entities and to solicit and raise moneys from public and private sources.
- *Allowing the Department to utilize up to 2% of the Fund annually for administration.
- *Requiring the Department to operate and maintain monuments. At a minimum, the following monuments will receive funding:
 - Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery
 - Overseas American battle monuments recognized or owned by the Commonwealth
 - *PA unit monuments and markers at Gettysburg National Military Park
 - Other military memorials and monuments as designated or recognized by the Department
- *Removing the "Veterans' Memorial Trust Fund" from the Veterans Trust Fund.

The bill would also amend Title 75 (Vehicles) by:

- *Redirecting funds from the PA Monuments License Registration Plate to the Pennsylvania Veterans' Monuments and Memorial Trust Fund.

Effective Date: 60 Days

BILL HISTORY:

HB 247 was unanimously passed by the House on March 21, 2017. In the 2015-16 Session, HB 2304 was unanimously passed by the House.

Prepared by: N. Silcox 3/27/2017