
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 126 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, BAKER AND STEFANO, JANUARY 9, 2023

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
JANUARY 9, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for the exclusion of
3 veterans' benefit payments from income for Commonwealth
4 programs.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

9 CHAPTER 99

10 VETERANS' BENEFIT PAYMENT EXCLUSION

11 Sec.

12 9901. Definitions.

13 9902. Exclusion.

14 § 9901. Definitions.

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

18 "Commonwealth program." A program administered by the
19 Commonwealth that requires, as a condition for eligibility, the

1 inclusion of an individual's income.

2 "Veteran." An individual who served in the United States
3 Armed Forces, including a reserve component or National Guard,
4 and who was discharged or released from that service under
5 conditions other than dishonorable.

6 "Veterans' benefit payment." Compensation or payment
7 received by a veteran that is directly related to or the result
8 of the veteran's service-connected disability as determined by
9 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or benefits
10 provided to a veteran by a Commonwealth agency or authorized
11 under the laws of this Commonwealth.

12 § 9902. Exclusion.

13 (a) Income exclusion.--One hundred percent of a veterans'
14 benefit payment may not be included as income for any
15 Commonwealth program.

16 (b) Extension to spouses.--The exclusion under subsection
17 (a) shall apply to an unmarried surviving spouse upon the death
18 of a veteran for any compensation or payment the unmarried
19 surviving spouse is entitled to receive.

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.