

No. 17

AN ACT

Providing for pensions for war veterans blinded through service connected injuries; conferring powers and imposing duties on the Department of Military Affairs and the Adjutant General; and making an appropriation.

Blinded war veterans.

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

Pension authorized; procedure, eligibility and decision.

Section 1. In addition to any other assistance provided by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in addition to any compensation provided by the Government of the United States, every blind veteran as defined in this act shall be paid a pension of fifty dollars (\$50) per month. Applications for such pensions shall be made to and in the form prescribed by the Department of Military Affairs. The Adjutant General shall have the power, and it shall be his duty to determine the eligibility of every applicant for a pension, and his decision in the matter shall be final.

Definition.

As used in this act, the term "blind veteran" shall mean any person who served in the military or naval forces of the United States, or any woman's organization officially connected therewith, during any war or armed conflict in which the United States was engaged, and who gave the State of Pennsylvania, or any specific place in this Commonwealth, as his or her place of residence at the time of entering the military or naval forces of the United States, and who while performing duties connected with such service suffered an injury which resulted in blindness to the extent that he or she has three-sixtieth or ten two-hundredth or less normal vision. The term "blind veteran" shall not include any person separated from the military or naval forces of the United States, or any woman's organization officially connected therewith, under other than honorable conditions.

Appropriation.

Section 2. The sum of eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000), or as much thereof as is necessary, is hereby appropriated to the Department of Military Affairs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1963, for the payment of the pension provided for in this act.

APPROVED—The 23rd day of April, A. D. 1963.

WILLIAM W. SCRANTON