

No. 1998-96

AN ACT

SB 1163

Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, further providing for advisory councils for veterans' homes and for pay of members on special duty; and providing for the charitable status of certain veterans' organizations.

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

Section 1. Sections 704(a) and 3101 of Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

§ 704. Advisory councils for veterans' homes.

(a) Establishment of advisory council.—There is hereby established an advisory council for each veterans' home operated by the Commonwealth. Each advisory council shall consist of [11] 15 members and the Adjutant General, who shall serve ex officio. [Eight] Twelve of the members shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of nominations submitted to the Adjutant General by the Pennsylvania War Veterans' Council. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall each appoint one member from their respective bodies to serve on each council. The remaining member on the advisory council shall be selected by the residents of the veterans' homes.

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§ 3101. Pay of officers *and enlisted personnel* on special duty.

[Commissioned officers] *Members of the Pennsylvania National Guard or Pennsylvania Guard* may be ordered upon special duty at the discretion of the Governor and shall receive the pay and allowances of their respective grades during the time they may continue upon duty under such order.

Section 2. Title 51 is amended by adding a section to read:

§ 9303. *Charitable status of certain veterans' organizations.*

(a) *General rule.—Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, any branch, post or camp of honorably discharged servicemen or servicewomen or an affiliated organization thereof shall be:*

(1) *Exempt from sales and use taxes imposed under Article II of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of 1971, for all purchases used for benevolent, charitable or patriotic purposes.*

(2) *Exempt from any real property taxes for that portion of the real property that is actually and regularly used for benevolent, charitable or patriotic purposes.*

(b) Definition.—As used in this section, the term “affiliated organization” means an affiliated organization as defined in section 461.1(b) of the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code.

Section 3. This act shall take effect as follows:

- (1) The amendment of 51 Pa.C.S. § 704 shall take effect in 60 days.
- (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 16th day of October, A.D. 1998.

THOMAS J. RIDGE