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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 496 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY GOODMAN, BIZZARRO, COHEN, D. COSTA, DEASY, DeLUCA,  
DONATUCCI, DUSH, ELLIS, FARINA, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GIBBONS,  
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READSHAW, SAINATO, SAMUELSON, SCHWEYER, TALLMAN, THOMAS,  
WATSON AND WHEATLEY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, FEBRUARY 17, 2015

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AN ACT

1 Providing compensation to persons in active service in  
2 connection with the Iraq War or their beneficiaries;  
3 authorizing the incurring of indebtedness and the issue and  
4 sale of bonds by the Commonwealth for the payment of  
5 compensation contingent upon electorate approval; creating a  
6 special fund in the State Treasury to be known as the Iraq  
7 War Veterans' Compensation Bond Sinking Fund; imposing powers  
8 and duties on the Department of Military and Veterans  
9 Affairs; and making appropriations.

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

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

12 Section 1. Short title.

13 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Iraq War  
14 Veterans' Benefit Act.

15 Section 2. Definitions.

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

19 "Active service." For a member of a component of the armed  
20 forces of the United States, the time served on active duty for  
21 which the member has received or is eligible to receive the Iraq  
22 Campaign Medal. For a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard  
23 or a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States,  
24 time served on active duty for the support of operations in the  
25 Iraq Conflict Theater, whether or not that service was in the  
26 theater. The term includes time spent in hospitals as a result  
27 of service-connected wounds, diseases or injuries sustained on  
28 active service. Proof of the service shall be the official  
29 military records of the United States or other evidence as is  
30 deemed sufficient by the Adjutant General. The term does not

1 include time served on active duty for annual training or  
2 schooling, except for training and schooling in preparation for  
3 active duty in the Iraq Conflict Theater.

4 "Fund." The Iraq War Veterans' Compensation Bond Sinking  
5 Fund.

6 "Iraq Conflict Theater." The area established by the United  
7 States Department of Defense for the awarding of the Iraq  
8 Campaign Medal for the period of time from March 19, 2003,  
9 through December 31, 2011.

10 "Issuing officials." The Governor, the Auditor General and  
11 the State Treasurer of the Commonwealth.

12 "Legal resident of this Commonwealth." A member of the  
13 United States Armed Forces, the reserve component of the United  
14 States Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania National Guard whose  
15 home of record at the time of the Iraq War was this Commonwealth  
16 or any specific place in this Commonwealth without regard to the  
17 place of enlistment, commission or induction. The proof of  
18 residence shall be the official records of the United States or  
19 other evidence that is deemed sufficient by the Adjutant  
20 General.

21 "Veteran." A member of the armed forces of the United  
22 States, including a member of the Army National Guard of the  
23 United States, the Air National Guard of the United States or a  
24 reserve component of the armed forces, who was ordered into or  
25 volunteered to serve on active duty in Iraq during the period  
26 from March 19, 2003, to December 31, 2011, and has received the  
27 Iraq Campaign Medal established by executive order 13363,  
28 November 29, 2004. This term does not include an individual who  
29 has renounced his or her United States citizenship.

30 Section 3. Computation of compensation.

1 (a) Eligibility.--Compensation shall be payable under this  
2 act only to each veteran who was a legal resident of this  
3 Commonwealth and who served under honorable conditions.

4 (b) Compensation for service in the Iraq War.--Compensation  
5 shall be payable on the basis of \$75 for the first month of  
6 eligibility with a minimum of one day of active service. After  
7 the first month, it shall be computed on the basis of \$75 for  
8 each month or major fraction of a month.

9 (c) Compensation on behalf of deceased veteran.--In addition  
10 to any other compensation authorized under this section, the  
11 compensation on behalf of a veteran who died in active service  
12 or as a result of service-connected wounds, diseases or injuries  
13 sustained during active service shall be \$5,000.

14 (d) Compensation of prisoner of war.--In addition to any  
15 compensation under this section, the compensation of a veteran  
16 who was declared a prisoner of war, regardless of the length of  
17 time spent as a prisoner of war, shall, upon return, be \$5,000.

18 (e) Total amount of compensation.--The compensation provided  
19 for active service under subsection (b) shall be not less than  
20 \$75 and not more than \$600.

21 (f) Exclusion from compensation.--An individual who has  
22 received a bonus, gratuity or compensation of a nature similar  
23 to that provided for by this act from any other state in the  
24 United States is ineligible for compensation. This exclusion  
25 does not apply to a similar bonus, gratuity or compensation from  
26 the Federal Government.

27 Section 4. Application for compensation.

28 (a) Application to Adjutant General.--Applications shall be  
29 made by a veteran, the facility entitled under section 5(a) or  
30 the beneficiaries designated under section 5(b). The Adjutant

1 General shall ascertain the applicants who are veterans and, as  
2 to each veteran, the number of months of service for which the  
3 veteran is entitled to receive compensation.

4 (b) Time for filing application.--The Adjutant General shall  
5 not accept or consider an application filed after December 31,  
6 2024.

7 Section 5. Persons to whom payments shall be made in case of  
8 incompetence or death.

9 (a) Incompetence.--In a case where the veteran is  
10 incompetent, if no guardian has been appointed, payment shall be  
11 made for the benefit of the veteran to the person who is  
12 entitled to payment under subsection (b) or, in the absence of  
13 that person and if the veteran is in a facility, to the person  
14 in charge of the facility to be expended for the clothing and  
15 incidental needs of the veteran. No part of the compensation  
16 paid to a facility may be used for the maintenance of the  
17 veteran. A statement from the person in charge of the facility  
18 in which the veteran resides shall be evidence to determine the  
19 competence of the veteran.

20 (b) Death.--In the case of the death of a veteran, payment  
21 shall be made, in the order named, to the:

22 (1) surviving spouse unless the spouse was living  
23 separate and apart from the veteran at the time of departure  
24 for active service;

25 (2) surviving children, share and share alike; or

26 (3) surviving parents.

27 (c) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
28 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
29 subsection:

30 "Facility." A mental health establishment, hospital, clinic,

1 institution, center, day-care center, base service unit,  
2 community mental health center or other organizational unit, or  
3 part thereof, that is devoted primarily to the diagnosis,  
4 treatment, care, rehabilitation or detention of mentally  
5 disabled persons.

6 "Parents." Persons who, for a period of not less than one  
7 year, acted in the capacity of a foster parent to the veteran  
8 immediately prior to the veteran's having attained 18 years of  
9 age.

10 Section 6. Applicant to designate beneficiaries.

11 A person making application for compensation shall set forth  
12 in the application the names and addresses of each person who,  
13 under this act, would be entitled to receive compensation in the  
14 event of the death of the applicant. If the applicant dies  
15 before the payment of the compensation, the application shall be  
16 deemed to inure to the benefit of the person next entitled to  
17 compensation, and payment shall be made to the person upon proof  
18 of identity satisfactory to the Adjutant General. If no person  
19 designated in this act as being entitled to compensation  
20 survives the veteran, the right to the compensation shall cease.

21 Section 7. Exemption from attachment.

22 No sum payable under this act to a veteran or to any other  
23 person under this act may be subject to attachment, levy or  
24 seizure under any legal or equitable process and shall be exempt  
25 from all State taxation. No right to compensation under this act  
26 may be assignable, except as otherwise provided in this act, or  
27 shall serve as a security for any loan. An assignment or loan  
28 made in violation of this section shall be void. Assignments to  
29 an incorporated or unincorporated organization of veterans, a  
30 nonprofit corporation formed solely for the purpose of aiding

1 disabled or incapacitated veterans and the State Veterans'  
2 Commission shall be valid.

3 Section 8. Penalty for charging fees for assisting veterans.

4 A person who charges or collects or attempts to charge or  
5 collect, either directly or indirectly, a fee or other  
6 compensation for assisting, in any manner, a veteran in  
7 obtaining a benefit provided under this act commits a  
8 misdemeanor of the second degree.

9 Section 9. Administration of compensation program.

10 The Adjutant General shall administer the compensation  
11 program. For that purpose, application forms shall be prepared  
12 and distributed, applications shall be investigated, and, if  
13 satisfied of the proof of an application, compensation shall be  
14 approved and payment of compensation shall be made. The Adjutant  
15 General shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement,  
16 administer and enforce this act. The Adjutant General shall, as  
17 soon as practicable after the effective date of this act,  
18 prepare and distribute a digest explaining the provisions of  
19 this act to assist veterans in filing their applications and  
20 shall from time to time prepare and distribute additional or  
21 supplementary information as may be found necessary. The  
22 Adjutant General shall enlist, as far as possible, the services  
23 of veteran organizations in this Commonwealth in the  
24 dissemination of the information.

25 Section 10. Payment of compensation.

26 The compensation payable under this act shall, upon  
27 requisition by the Adjutant General, be paid by the State  
28 Treasurer from the fund to be created with funds realized from a  
29 proposed bond issue. Payments shall be made as soon as possible  
30 after funds are available.

1 Section 11. Iraq War Veterans' Compensation Bond Sinking Fund.

2 (a) Purpose of fund.--The Iraq War Veterans' Compensation  
3 Bond Sinking Fund is established in the State Treasury and shall  
4 be the source from which all payments are authorized with the  
5 approval of the Governor to carry out this act. The moneys in  
6 the fund shall only be utilized:

7 (1) For the purpose of providing compensation to  
8 veterans in accordance with the provisions of this act.

9 (2) For the administrative costs incurred in any of the  
10 purposes in paragraph (1), including the costs incurred in  
11 connection with the issuance of the bonds.

12 (b) Interfund transfers authorized.--

13 (1) Whenever the cash balance and the current estimated  
14 receipts of the fund shall be insufficient during a State  
15 fiscal year to promptly meet the obligations of the  
16 Commonwealth from the fund, the State Treasurer shall, from  
17 time to time during the fiscal year, transfer from the  
18 General Fund to the fund the sums as the Governor directs,  
19 but in no case less than the amount necessary to promptly  
20 meet the obligations to be paid from the fund nor more than  
21 an amount that is the smallest of:

22 (i) the difference between the amount of debt  
23 authorized to be issued under the authority of this act  
24 and the aggregate principal amount of bonds and notes  
25 issued, not including refunding bonds and replacement  
26 notes; and

27 (ii) the difference between the aggregate principal  
28 amount of bonds and notes to be issued during a State  
29 fiscal year and the aggregate principal amount of bonds  
30 and notes, not including refunding bonds and replacement

1 notes, issued during that State fiscal year.

2 Any sum transferred shall be available only for the purposes  
3 for which funds are appropriated from the fund. The transfers  
4 shall be made under this section upon warrant of the State  
5 Treasurer upon requisition of the Governor.

6 (2) In order to reimburse the General Fund for money  
7 transferred from the funds under paragraph (1), there shall  
8 be transferred to the General Fund from the fund money from  
9 the proceeds obtained from bonds and notes issued under the  
10 authority of this act or from other available funds in  
11 amounts and at the times as the Governor shall direct. The  
12 retransfers shall be made upon warrant of the State Treasurer  
13 upon requisition of the Governor.

14 Section 12. Commonwealth indebtedness.

15 (a) Borrowing authorized.--

16 (1) If and when the electorate approves a referendum  
17 question for the incurring of indebtedness in the amount and  
18 for the purposes prescribed in this act, the issuing  
19 officials, under section 7(a)(3) of Article VIII of the  
20 Constitution of Pennsylvania, are authorized and directed to  
21 borrow, on the credit of the Commonwealth, money not  
22 exceeding in the aggregate the sum of \$20,000,000, not  
23 including money borrowed to refund outstanding bonds, notes  
24 or replacement notes, as may be necessary to carry out the  
25 purpose of this act.

26 (2) As evidence of the indebtedness, general obligation  
27 bonds of the Commonwealth shall be issued from time to time  
28 to provide moneys necessary to carry out this act for the  
29 total amounts, in the form, in the denominations and subject  
30 to the terms and conditions of issue, redemption and

1 maturity, rate of interest and time of payment of interest  
2 that the issuing officials direct, except that the latest  
3 stated maturity date shall not exceed 20 years from the date  
4 of the first obligation issued to evidence the debt.

5 (3) Each bond and note issued under this act shall bear  
6 facsimile signatures of the issuing officials and a facsimile  
7 of the Great Seal of the Commonwealth and shall be  
8 countersigned by a duly authorized officer of a duly  
9 authorized loan and transfer agent of the Commonwealth.

10 (4) Each bond and note issued in accordance with this  
11 section shall be a direct obligation of the Commonwealth, and  
12 the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth is hereby  
13 pledged for the payment of the interest on the bonds and  
14 notes as it becomes due, and the payment of the principal at  
15 maturity. The principal of and interest on the bonds and  
16 notes shall be payable in lawful money of the United States.

17 (5) Each bond and note issued under this section shall  
18 be exempt from taxation for State and local purposes.

19 (6) The bonds may be issued as coupon bonds or  
20 registered as to both principal and interest as the issuing  
21 officials may determine. If interest coupons are attached,  
22 they shall contain the facsimile signature of the State  
23 Treasurer.

24 (7) The issuing officials shall provide for the  
25 amortization of the bonds in substantial and regular amounts  
26 over the term of the debt so that the bonds of each issue  
27 allocated to the programs to be funded from the bond issue  
28 shall mature within a period not to exceed the appropriate  
29 amortization period for each program as specified by the  
30 issuing officials but in no case in excess of 20 years. The

1 first retirement of principal shall be stated to mature prior  
2 to the expiration of a period of time equal to one-tenth of  
3 the time from the date of the first obligation issued to  
4 evidence the debt to the date of the expiration of the term  
5 of the debt. Retirements of principal shall be regular and  
6 substantial if made in annual or semiannual amounts whether  
7 by stated serial maturities or by mandatory sinking fund  
8 retirements.

9 (8) The issuing officials are authorized to provide by  
10 resolution for the issuance of refunding bonds for the  
11 purpose of refunding debt issued under the provisions of this  
12 act and then outstanding, either by voluntary exchange with  
13 the holders of the outstanding debt or providing funds to  
14 redeem and retire the outstanding debt with accrued interest,  
15 any premium payable on the debt and the costs of issuance and  
16 retirement of the debt, at maturity or at a call date. The  
17 issuance of the refunding bonds, the maturities and other  
18 details of the bonds, the rights of the holders of the bonds  
19 and the duties of the issuing official in respect to the  
20 bonds shall be governed by this section insofar as they may  
21 be applicable. Refunding bonds, which are not subject to the  
22 aggregate limitation of \$20,000,000 of debt to be issued  
23 under this act, may be issued by the issuing officials to  
24 refund debt originally issued or to refund bonds previously  
25 issued for refunding purposes.

26 (9) If an action is to be taken or decision made by the  
27 Governor, the Auditor General and the State Treasurer acting  
28 as issuing officials and the three officers are not able  
29 unanimously to agree, the action or decision of the Governor  
30 and either the Auditor General or the State Treasurer shall

1 be binding and final.

2 (b) Sale of bonds.--

3 (1) If bonds are issued, they shall be offered for sale  
4 at not less than 98% of the principal amount and accrued  
5 interest and shall be sold by the issuing officials to the  
6 highest and best bidder or bidders after due public  
7 advertisement on the terms and conditions and upon open  
8 competitive bidding as the issuing officials shall direct.  
9 The manner and character of the advertisement and the time of  
10 advertising shall be prescribed by the issuing officials. No  
11 commission may be allowed or paid for the sale of any bonds  
12 issued under this act.

13 (2) Any portion of a bond issue offered and not sold or  
14 subscribed for at public sale may be disposed of by private  
15 sale by the issuing officials in the manner and at the  
16 prices, not less than 98% of the principal amount and accrued  
17 interest, that the Governor may direct. No commission may be  
18 allowed or paid for the sale of a bond issued under this act.

19 (3) When bonds are issued from time to time, the bonds  
20 of each issue shall constitute a separate series to be  
21 designated by the issuing officials or may be combined for  
22 sale as one series with other general obligation bonds of the  
23 Commonwealth.

24 (4) Until permanent bonds can be prepared, the issuing  
25 officials may in their discretion issue, in lieu of permanent  
26 bonds, temporary bonds in the form and with the privileges as  
27 to registration and exchange for permanent bonds that may be  
28 determined by the issuing officials.

29 (5) The proceeds realized from the sale of bonds and  
30 notes, except refunding bonds and replacement notes, under

1 the provisions of this act shall be paid into the fund. The  
2 proceeds shall be paid by the State Treasurer periodically to  
3 those Commonwealth officers and Commonwealth agencies  
4 authorized to expend them at the times and in the amounts  
5 that may be necessary to satisfy the funding needs of the  
6 agencies. The proceeds of the sale of refunding bonds and  
7 replacement notes shall be paid to the State Treasurer and  
8 applied to the payment of principal, the accrued interest and  
9 premium, if any, and cost of redemption of the bonds and  
10 notes for which the obligations shall have been issued.

11 (6) Pending their application for the purposes  
12 authorized, money held or deposited by the State Treasurer  
13 may be invested or reinvested as are other funds in the  
14 custody of the State Treasurer in the manner provided by law.  
15 All earnings received from the investment or deposit of the  
16 funds shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of  
17 the fund. The earnings in excess of bond discounts allowed,  
18 expenses paid for the issuance of bonds and notes and  
19 interest arbitrage rebates due to the Federal Government  
20 shall be transferred annually to the fund. Interest or  
21 investment income shall be applied to assist in the payment  
22 of the debt service incurred in connection with this act.

23 (7) The Auditor General shall prepare the necessary  
24 registry book to be kept in the office of the duly authorized  
25 loan and transfer agent of the Commonwealth for the  
26 registration of any bonds, at the request of owners of the  
27 bonds, according to the terms and conditions of issue  
28 directed by the issuing officials.

29 (8) There is hereby appropriated to the State Treasurer  
30 from the fund as much money as may be necessary for all costs

1 and expenses in connection with the issue of and sale and  
2 registration of the bonds and notes in connection with this  
3 act and the payment of interest arbitrage rebates or proceeds  
4 of the bonds and notes.

5 (c) Temporary financing authorization.--

6 (1) Pending the issuance of bonds of the Commonwealth as  
7 authorized, the issuing officials are authorized, in  
8 accordance with this act and on the credit of the  
9 Commonwealth, to make temporary borrowings not to exceed  
10 three years in anticipation of the issue of bonds in order to  
11 provide funds in amounts as may from time to time be deemed  
12 advisable prior to the issue of bonds. In order to provide  
13 for and in connection with the temporary borrowings, the  
14 issuing officials are hereby authorized in the name and on  
15 behalf of the Commonwealth to enter into a purchase, loan or  
16 credit agreement or agreements or other agreement or  
17 agreements with any banks or trust companies or other lending  
18 institutions, investment banking firms or persons in the  
19 United States having power to enter into the same, which  
20 agreements may contain provisions not inconsistent with the  
21 provisions of this act as may be authorized by the issuing  
22 officials.

23 (2) All temporary borrowings made under the  
24 authorization of this section shall be evidenced by notes of  
25 the Commonwealth. The notes shall be issued from time to  
26 time, for amounts not exceeding in the aggregate the  
27 applicable statutory and constitutional debt limitation, in  
28 the form, in the denominations and subject to terms and  
29 conditions of sale and issue, prepayment or redemption and  
30 maturity, rate or rates of interest and time of payment of

1 interest as the issuing officials shall authorize and in  
2 accordance with this act. The authorization may provide for  
3 the subsequent issuance of replacement notes to refund  
4 outstanding notes or replacement notes, which replacement  
5 notes shall, upon issuance thereof, evidence the borrowing  
6 and may specify other terms and conditions with respect to  
7 the notes and replacement notes thereby authorized for  
8 issuance as the issuing officials may determine and direct.

9 (3) When the authorization of the issuing officials  
10 provides for the issuance of replacement notes, the issuing  
11 officials may in the name and on behalf of the Commonwealth  
12 issue, enter into or authorize the State Treasurer to enter  
13 into agreements with any banks, trust companies, investment  
14 banking firms or other institutions or persons in the United  
15 States having the power to enter the same:

16 (i) To purchase or underwrite an issue or series of  
17 issues or notes.

18 (ii) To credit, to enter into a purchase, loan or  
19 credit agreement, to draw moneys under the agreements on  
20 the terms and conditions of the agreements and to issue  
21 notes as evidence of borrowings made under the  
22 agreements.

23 (iii) To appoint an issuing and payment agent with  
24 respect to notes.

25 (iv) To do other acts that are necessary or  
26 appropriate to provide for the payment, when due, of the  
27 interest on and the principal of the notes. The  
28 agreements may provide for the compensation of a  
29 purchaser or underwriter of notes or replacement notes by  
30 discounting the purchase price of the notes or by payment

1 of a fixed fee or commission at the time of issuance of  
2 the notes. The costs and expenses, including fees for  
3 agreements related to the notes, issuing and paying agent  
4 costs and costs and expenses of issuance, may be paid  
5 from the proceeds of the notes.

6 (4) When the authorization of the issuing officials  
7 provides for the issuance of replacement notes, the State  
8 Treasurer shall, at or before the time of delivery of these  
9 notes or replacement notes, determine the principal amounts,  
10 dates of issue, interest rates or procedures for establishing  
11 the rates from time to time, rates of discount, denominations  
12 and all other terms and conditions relating to the issuance.  
13 The State Treasurer shall perform all acts and things  
14 necessary to pay or cause to be paid, when due, all principal  
15 of and interest on the notes being refunded by replacement  
16 notes and to assure that the State Treasurer may draw upon  
17 any moneys available for that purpose under a purchase, loan  
18 or credit agreement established with respect to the notes  
19 subject to the authorization of the issuing officials.

20 (5) Outstanding notes evidencing the borrowings may be  
21 funded and retired by the issuance and sale of the bonds of  
22 the Commonwealth as provided in this section. The refunding  
23 bonds must be issued and sold not later than three years  
24 after the date of issuance of the first notes evidencing the  
25 borrowings to the extent that payment of the notes has not  
26 otherwise been made or provided for by sources other than  
27 proceeds of replacement notes.

28 (6) The proceeds of the temporary borrowing shall be  
29 paid to the State Treasurer to be held and disposed of in  
30 accordance with the provisions of this act.

1 (d) Debt retirement.--

2 (1) Bonds issued under this act shall be redeemed at  
3 maturity, together with all interest due from time to time on  
4 the bonds. The principal and interest payments shall be paid  
5 from the Iraq War Veterans' Compensation Bond Sinking Fund,  
6 which is hereby established. For the specific purpose of  
7 redeeming the bonds at maturity and paying all interest on  
8 the bonds in accordance with the information received from  
9 the Governor, the General Assembly shall appropriate money to  
10 the Iraq War Veterans' Compensation Bond Sinking Fund for the  
11 payment of interest on the bonds and notes and the principal  
12 of the bonds and notes at maturity. The money paid into the  
13 Iraq War Veterans' Compensation Bond Sinking Fund and the  
14 money not necessary to pay accruing interest shall be  
15 invested by the State Treasurer in securities provided by law  
16 for the investment of the sinking funds of the Commonwealth.

17 (2) The State Treasurer, with the approval of the  
18 Governor, is authorized to use the money in the fund not  
19 necessary for the purposes of the referendum authorizing the  
20 indebtedness necessary to carry out this act, for the  
21 purchase and retirement of all or part of the bonds and notes  
22 issued under the authorization of this act. In the event that  
23 all or part of the bonds and notes are purchased, they shall  
24 be canceled and returned to the loan and transfer agent as  
25 canceled and paid bonds and notes, and after cancellation,  
26 all payments of interest on the bonds and notes shall cease.  
27 The canceled bonds, notes and coupons, together with any  
28 other canceled bonds, notes and coupons, shall be destroyed  
29 as promptly as possible after cancellation but no later than  
30 two years after cancellation. A certification evidencing the

1 destruction of the canceled bonds, notes and coupons shall be  
2 provided by the loan and transfer agent to the issuing  
3 officials. Each canceled bond, note and coupon shall be so  
4 marked as to make the canceled bond, note and coupon  
5 nonnegotiable.

6 (3) The State Treasurer shall determine and report to  
7 the Secretary of the Budget by November 1 of each year the  
8 amount of money necessary for the payment of interest on  
9 outstanding obligations and the principal of the obligations,  
10 if any, for the following fiscal year and the times and  
11 amounts of the payments. It shall be the duty of the Governor  
12 to include in each budget submitted to the General Assembly  
13 full information relating to the issuance of bonds and notes  
14 under this act and the status of the Iraq War Veterans'  
15 Compensation Bond Sinking Fund of the Commonwealth for the  
16 payment of interest on the bonds and notes and the principal  
17 of the bonds and notes at maturity.

18 (4) The General Assembly shall appropriate an amount  
19 equal to the sums as may be necessary to meet repayment  
20 obligations for principal and interest for deposit into the  
21 Iraq War Veterans' Compensation Bond Sinking Fund.

22 (e) Expiration.--Authorization to issue bonds and notes, not  
23 including refunding bonds and replacement notes, under this act  
24 shall expire 10 years from the effective date of this section.  
25 Section 13. Question.

26 (a) Submission of question to electorate.--The question of  
27 incurring indebtedness of up to \$20,000,000 for the purposes set  
28 forth in this act shall be submitted to the electors at the next  
29 general election following enactment of this act.

30 (b) Certification.--The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall

1 certify the question to the county boards of elections.

2 (c) Form of question.--The question shall be in  
3 substantially the following form:

4 Do you favor indebtedness by the Commonwealth of up to  
5 \$20,000,000 for the payment of compensation for service  
6 in the Iraq War?

7 (d) Election.--The election shall be conducted in accordance  
8 with the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the  
9 Pennsylvania Election Code, except that the time limits for  
10 advertisement of notice of the election may be waived as to the  
11 question.

12 (e) Proceeds.--Proceeds of the borrowing shall be used for  
13 the payment of compensation for service in or in support of the  
14 Iraq War.

15 Section 14. Appropriations.

16 (a) Compensation appropriation.--For the purpose of payment  
17 for the compensation to eligible veterans, staff services,  
18 postage and other necessary expenses incurred by the Adjutant  
19 General in the administration of this compensation program, the  
20 sums, or as much thereof as may be necessary, are specifically  
21 appropriated to the Adjutant General out of any money which has  
22 been deposited in the fund.

23 (b) Continuing appropriation.--The appropriation under  
24 subsection (a) shall be a continuing appropriation and shall not  
25 lapse.

26 Section 15. Effective date.

27 This act shall take effect as follows:

28 (1) Section 13(a), (b), (c) and (d) shall take effect  
29 immediately.

30 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect upon the

1 certification of the approval by the electorate to incur the  
2 indebtedness necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
3 act.