

Executive Order
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Governor's Office

Subject:
Pennsylvania Military Community Protection Commission

Number:
2012-12



By Direction of: Tom Corbett, Governor

Date: September 17, 2012

WHEREAS, the successful operations of the active, the reserve and the National Guard components of our nation's military are essential to the well-being and safety of our nation and of all Pennsylvania citizens; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. military installations, and organizations, and defense related regions comprised of military bases and the private sector enterprises that support them, which are located in the commonwealth are of vital importance to the efficient and effective operation of the various branches of the military and are a significant contributor to Pennsylvania's economy; and

WHEREAS, it is of vital importance to continually enhance the military value of the existing military installations and organizations stationed in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to have an integrated approach among all commonwealth agencies and stakeholders at the federal, state, and local levels and in the public and private sectors in the enhancement and preservation of the military installations and organizations located in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to always remain vigilant and to develop the requisite policies, programs and processes along with public and private resources to establish and maintain productive partnerships with the military installations and organizations and defense related regions in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to always be prepared to openly welcome all new federally-related missions, organizations and operations into the commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a Pennsylvania organization to be tasked with the responsibility of communicating recommendations, policies, plans and processes to each military installation and organization within the commonwealth in order to enhance their military value and to ensure the commonwealth becomes an exemplary host for all military organizations, the military and civilian members and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tom Corbett, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby establish the Pennsylvania Military Community Protection Commission (hereinafter referred to as "Commission") as herein set forth.

- 1. Purpose.** The purpose of the Commission shall be to assist the Governor by providing recommendations and input to enhance the military value of all installations, organizations and defense related regions located within the commonwealth by providing and implementing the requisite recommendations, policies, plans and processes to achieve that goal. The Commission shall also assist in providing an understanding within the U.S. Department of Defense that Pennsylvania is a great place for the military and the defense related personnel and their families to live, work and recreate.
- 2. Responsibilities.** The responsibilities of the Commission shall be to:
 - a. Closely monitor the activities at the federal level regarding any initiative or proposal which will affect either positively or negatively any military installation or organization and defense related regions in Pennsylvania;
 - b. Establish a viable and long-term relationship with each military installation, organization and defense related regions;
 - c. Assist with the expansion of economic development opportunities and defense related industry regions within the commonwealth;
 - d. Educate and engage the stakeholders at the federal, state and local levels and in the public and private sectors in the enhancement and preservation of Pennsylvania's military installations and organizations and defense related regions;
 - e. Advocate at the federal, state and local levels for the enhancement of Pennsylvania's military installations and organizations and defense related regions, so that these entities fully support our nation's military stationed at home and abroad;
 - f. Coordinate and provide oversight over all aspects of the commonwealth's initiative to enhance the military value of the installations and organizations and defense related regions located in the commonwealth;
 - g. The Commission shall report its activities no less than quarterly to the Governor or his designated representative; and
 - h. The Department of Community and Economic Development (Department) will establish the Office of the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Military Community Protection Commission and staff the office as deemed necessary by the Commission Chairperson and the Department to fulfill the Commission's purpose and responsibilities. Consultants will be employed as deemed necessary by the Commission, in consultation with the Department.

- 3. Composition.** The Lieutenant Governor shall serve as the Chairperson and other members of the Commission shall consist of:
 - a. Four members of the Military Installations and Base Development Caucus, being:
 - (1) A member appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate;
 - (2) A member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate;
 - (3) A member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and
 - (4) A member appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;
 - b. A member appointed by the Governor who has experience at the senior level of the military and is familiar with the operations represented by the installations and organizations stationed in Pennsylvania; and
 - c. Other members, as appointed by the Governor; who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, who are representatives of the military installations or organizations stationed in Pennsylvania and who have knowledge of the mission and operations of the installation or organization they will represent;
 - d. An executive director, appointed by the Governor who is employed by the Department, and who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor; and Members of the Commission will receive no compensation for their services. Members will be reimbursed for travel and related expenses in accordance with commonwealth policy.
- 4. Terms of Membership.**
 - a. Members shall be appointed for terms of two years and continue to serve until their respective successors are appointed. A member may be reappointed for one or more additional terms. All members appointed by the Governor shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor;
 - b. Should a vacancy occur on the Commission, a successor shall be appointed in accordance with Section 3. Successors shall be appointed for a full two year term. A successor so appointed may thereafter be reappointed for one or more additional terms; and
 - c. A member who is absent from two consecutive meetings of the Commission, without excuse, shall forfeit membership on the Commission.
- 5. Responsibilities of Commonwealth Agencies.** All commonwealth agencies, boards and commissions under the Governor's jurisdiction shall cooperate fully with the Commission on the implementation of this order.
- 6. Effective Date.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.
- 7. Termination Date.** This Executive Order shall continue in effect unless revised or modified by the Governor.