

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2479 Session of  
2008

INTRODUCED BY HARKINS, ROEBUCK, McCALL, GRUCELA, WALKO,  
K. SMITH, SAYLOR, McILVAINE SMITH, MYERS, MANN, KULA,  
JOSEPHS, HERSHEY, HARHAI, BISHOP, BRENNAN, BUXTON,  
CALTAGIRONE, DALLY, FRANKEL, MELIO, GODSHALL AND BARRAR,  
MAY 2, 2008

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 2, 2008

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," further providing for State  
6 reimbursements for charter and cyber charter schools.

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

9 Section 1. Section 2591.1 of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
11 amended December 23, 2003 (P.L.304, No.48) and July 20, 2007  
12 (P.L.278, No.45), is amended to read:

13 Section 2591.1. Commonwealth Reimbursements for Charter  
14 Schools and Cyber Charter Schools.--(a) For the 2001-2002  
15 school year, the Commonwealth shall pay to each school district  
16 with resident students enrolled in a charter school, a charter  
17 school approved under section 1717-A or 1718-A which provides  
18 instruction through the Internet or other electronic means or a

1 cyber charter school as defined pursuant to Article XVII-A an  
2 amount equal to thirty percent (30%) of the total funding  
3 required under section 1725-A(a). If insufficient funds are  
4 appropriated to make Commonwealth reimbursements under this  
5 section, the reimbursements shall be made on a pro rata basis.

6 (b) For the 2002-2003 school year, the Commonwealth shall  
7 pay to each school district that received funding under  
8 subsection (a) for the 2001-2002 school year and that had  
9 resident students enrolled in a charter school, a charter school  
10 approved under section 1717-A or 1718-A which provides  
11 instruction through the Internet or other electronic means or a  
12 cyber charter school as defined under Article XVII-A during the  
13 2002-2003 school year an amount equal to the lesser of:

14 (1) the payment received for the 2001-2002 school year  
15 pursuant to subsection (a); or

16 (2) thirty percent (30%) of the total funding required under  
17 section 1725-A(a).

18 (c) For the 2002-2003 school year, the Commonwealth shall  
19 pay to each school district that did not receive funding under  
20 subsection (a) for the 2001-2002 school year and that had  
21 resident students enrolled in a charter school, a charter school  
22 approved under section 1717-A or 1718-A which provides  
23 instruction through the Internet or other electronic means or a  
24 cyber charter school as defined under Article XVII-A during the  
25 2002-2003 school year an amount equal to thirty percent (30%) of  
26 the total funding required under section 1725-A(a).

27 (c.1) (1) For the 2003-2004 school year and each school  
28 year thereafter, except [for the 2006-2007 school year] as  
29 provided under paragraph (2), the Commonwealth shall pay to each  
30 school district with resident students enrolled during the

1 immediately preceding school year in a charter school, a charter  
2 school approved under section 1717-A or 1718-A which provides  
3 instruction through the Internet or other electronic means or a  
4 cyber charter school as defined under Article XVII-A, an amount  
5 equal to thirty percent (30%) of the total funding required  
6 under section 1725-A(a).

7 (2) For the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school [year] years, the  
8 payment required under this subsection shall be equal to thirty-  
9 two and forty-five hundredths percent (32.45%) of the amount  
10 required under section 1725-A(a), where the school district has:

11 (i) average daily membership of resident students enrolled  
12 in a charter school, a charter school approved under section  
13 1717-A or 1718-A which provides instruction through the Internet  
14 or other electronic means or a cyber charter school as defined  
15 under Article XVII-A equal to or greater than twelve percent  
16 (12%) of the school district's [2006-2007] average daily  
17 membership for the school year;

18 (ii) a [2007-2008] market value/income aid ratio for the  
19 school year of equal to or greater than six thousand ten  
20 thousandths (.6000); and

21 (iii) made payments equal to or greater than one million  
22 dollars (\$1,000,000) as required under section 1725-A(a).

23 (d) (1) For the fiscal year 2003-2004 and each fiscal year  
24 thereafter, if insufficient funds are appropriated to make  
25 Commonwealth payments pursuant to this section, such payments  
26 shall be made on a pro rata basis.

27 (2) For fiscal year 2007-2008, when determining if  
28 sufficient funds are available, the Department of Education  
29 shall include in the calculation two million dollars  
30 (\$2,000,000) in addition to the funds appropriated to the

1 Department of Education for this purpose.

2 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, or  
3 immediately, whichever is later.