

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1381 Session of
2008

INTRODUCED BY LOGAN, MUSTO, COSTA, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, STOUT,
KITCHEN, LAVALLE, KASUNIC AND C. WILLIAMS, APRIL 28, 2008

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, APRIL 28, 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 education
6 empowerment districts.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1705-B(h) of the act of March 10, 1949
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
11 amended July 11, 2006 (P.L.1092, No.114) and July 20, 2007
12 (P.L.278, No.45), is amended to read:

13 Section 1705-B. Education Empowerment Districts.--* * *

14 (h) (1) A school district under a declaration of distress
15 pursuant to section 691(a) and certified as an education
16 empowerment district shall be operated by a special board of
17 control established under section 692. A board of control
18 established under this section shall be abolished upon the
19 appointment of a special board of control under section 692.

20 (2) For a school district under a declaration of distress

1 pursuant to section 691(a) and certified as an education
2 empowerment district, the special board of control established
3 under section 692 shall have the powers and duties of a special
4 board of control under section 692 and the powers and duties
5 contained in section 1706-B.

6 (3) For a school district with a history of low test
7 performance that is certified as distressed for a minimum period
8 of two (2) years under sections 691 and 692, the department
9 shall waive the inclusion of the school district on the
10 education empowerment list under section 1703-B(a) and
11 immediately certify the school district as an education
12 empowerment district.

13 (4) The department may utilize up to \$4,500,000 of
14 undistributed funds not expended, encumbered or committed from
15 appropriations for grants and subsidies made to the department
16 to assist school districts certified as an education empowerment
17 district under paragraph (3). There is hereby established a
18 restricted account from which payments under this paragraph
19 shall be paid. Funds shall be transferred by the Secretary of
20 the Budget to the restricted account to the extent necessary to
21 make payments under this paragraph. Funds in the restricted
22 account are hereby appropriated to carry out the purposes of
23 this paragraph. The subsidy payment from this account shall be
24 utilized to supplement the operational budget of the eligible
25 school districts. This paragraph shall apply to fiscal years
26 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-
27 2006, 2006-2007 [and], 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 and shall expire
28 June 30, [2008] 2009.

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