

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1611 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY McCALL, JUNE 21, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 21, 2007

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," providing for the use of annual  
6 accountability grants for academic enrichment services for  
7 students participating in after school programs.

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

10 Section 1. Section 2599.2(b) of the act of March 10, 1949  
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
12 amended July 13, 2005 (P.L.226, No.46), is amended to read:

13 Section 2599.2. Pennsylvania Accountability Grants.--\* \* \*

14 (b) The grant shall be used by a school district to attain  
15 or maintain academic performance targets. Funds obtained under  
16 this section may be used for any of the following:

17 (1) Establishing, maintaining or expanding a quality pre-  
18 kindergarten program aligned with the current academic standards  
19 contained in 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4 (relating to academic standards  
20 and assessment).

1       (2) Establishing, maintaining or expanding a quality full-  
2 day kindergarten program aligned with the current academic  
3 standards contained in 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4. Such programs shall be  
4 kept open for five hours each day for the full school term as  
5 provided in section 1501. The board of school directors of a  
6 school district may offer a full-day kindergarten program to  
7 children who are between four and six years old.

8       (3) Establishing, maintaining or expanding a class size  
9 reduction program. Such class size reduction program shall  
10 appoint and assign a minimum of one teacher for every 17  
11 students or two teachers for every 35 students enrolled in a  
12 kindergarten, first, second or third grade classroom. All  
13 teachers appointed and assigned to teach kindergarten, first,  
14 second or third grade shall be certified in accordance with 22  
15 Pa. Code Ch. 49 (relating to certification of professional  
16 personnel) or its successors. The department shall establish  
17 guidelines to assure that no school district satisfies the  
18 requirements of this paragraph by making a reduction in, and  
19 subsequent increase to, current teacher complement. For purposes  
20 of this paragraph, the phrase "one teacher for every 17 students  
21 or two teachers for every 35 students enrolled in a  
22 kindergarten, first, second or third grade classroom" shall  
23 refer to the number of teachers conducting a class at any one  
24 time in a classroom containing the applicable number of  
25 students.

26       (4) Establishing, expanding or maintaining programs that  
27 promote the availability, coordination, integration and  
28 utilization of social and health services, associated resources  
29 and ancillary resources to meet the needs of children and  
30 families in addressing issues that may serve to limit student

1 academic achievement.

2 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of Article XV-C,  
3 providing tutoring assistance during the normal school day and  
4 hours of the school district, provided that the tutoring is in  
5 addition to and does not interfere with a student's regularly  
6 scheduled classroom instruction times and does not supplant  
7 services required in a student's individualized education  
8 program.

9 (6) Improving the academic performance of subgroups  
10 identified under section 1111(b) of the No Child Left Behind Act  
11 of 2001.

12 (7) Establishing, expanding or maintaining programs to  
13 assist in the building of strong science and applied-knowledge  
14 skills.

15 (8) Providing additional programs for continuing  
16 professional education that may include any of the following:  
17 training in mathematics, science and literacy-specific  
18 curriculum and instructional strategies; training in school-wide  
19 improvement planning; analysis of student achievement data,  
20 including student work and the implications for classroom  
21 practice; observing and studying exemplary school and classroom  
22 practices; implementing school-wide programs and classroom  
23 management strategies designed to improve student conduct; using  
24 technology to boost student achievement; conducting transition  
25 planning and curriculum alignment across schools and grade  
26 levels; or implementing secondary strategies to increase student  
27 engagement and personalize learning.

28 (9) Establishing, expanding or maintaining math and literacy  
29 coaching programs within schools to improve math and reading  
30 instruction.

1       (10) Providing financial incentives to highly qualified,  
2       tenured teachers to work in the most academically challenged  
3       schools in a school district or providing financial incentives  
4       to aid in the recruitment of certificated teachers in  
5       mathematics, science, language arts or English as a second  
6       language to work in the most academically challenged schools in  
7       a school district.

8       (10.1) Establish, expand or maintain academic enrichment  
9       services for children who participate in an after school program  
10      run by the local school district or in cooperation with a local  
11      institution of higher education.

12      (11) Providing such other programs or activities that the  
13      board of school directors of a school district determines are  
14      essential to achieving or maintaining academic performance  
15      targets through the year 2014.

16      \* \* \*

17      Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.