

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 724 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY MUSTO, FONTANA, WAUGH, WASHINGTON, LOGAN, MELLOW,  
COSTA, WONDERLING AND LAVALLE, APRIL 2, 2007

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, APRIL 2, 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," further providing for  
6 responsibilities of department and State Board of Education.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1603-B 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), is amended to read:  
12 Section 1603-B. Responsibilities of department and State Board  
13 of Education.

14 (a) Rules and regulations.--The State Board of Education  
15 shall promulgate any regulations necessary to carry out the  
16 provisions of this article pursuant to the act of June 25, 1982  
17 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the Regulatory Review Act.

18 (b) Promotional materials.--The department shall publish  
19 promotional materials on its publicly accessible website that

1 may be used by school entities to inform parents and students  
2 about the requirements, features and opportunities of concurrent  
3 enrollment programs established under this article. To the  
4 extent that the department provides school entities with printed  
5 promotional materials for dissemination, the department shall  
6 make such materials available, upon request, to any charter  
7 school, nonpublic school, private school or home education  
8 program.

9 (c) Grants.--

10 (1) The department shall provide a grant to any school  
11 entity that has applied for grant funds under section 1611-  
12 B(c) and has approved a concurrent enrollment program as set  
13 forth in this article. The grant amount to each school entity  
14 shall be calculated for each concurrent course as follows:

15 (i) Determine the total approved cost for all  
16 concurrent students who are residents of the school  
17 district or enrolled in the area vocational-technical  
18 school.

19 (ii) Multiply the amount from subparagraph (i) by  
20 the sum of 0.425 and the market value/income aid ratio of  
21 the school entity, provided that where a concurrent  
22 student is enrolled in an area vocational-technical  
23 school, the market value/income aid ratio shall be the  
24 average of the market value/income aid ratios of the  
25 concurrent students' school districts of residence.

26 (2) (i) The total amount of grant funds available for  
27 concurrent courses classified as early college high  
28 school, middle college high school or gateway to college  
29 programs shall equal 6% of the total amount of funds  
30 appropriated for concurrent enrollment programs under

1           this article.

2           (ii) Where the total amount of grants provided for  
3           concurrent courses classified as early college high  
4           school, middle college high school or gateway to college  
5           programs is less than the total amount of grant funds  
6           available under this paragraph, any unexpended grant  
7           funds shall be made available for other concurrent  
8           students.

9           (3) (i) The total amount of grant funds available for  
10          concurrent students who are enrolled in charter schools,  
11          nonpublic schools, private schools or home education  
12          programs shall equal [6%] 4.8% of the total amount of  
13          funds appropriated for concurrent enrollment programs  
14          under this article.

15          (ii) Where the total amount of grants provided on  
16          behalf of concurrent students who are enrolled in charter  
17          schools, nonpublic schools, private schools or home  
18          education programs is less than the total amount of grant  
19          funds available under this paragraph, any unexpended  
20          grant funds shall be made available for other concurrent  
21          students.

22          (4) The grant amount shall not exceed 100% of the total  
23          approved cost of a concurrent course. Where funds  
24          appropriated for this program are insufficient to fund the  
25          full amount of all grants calculated under this subsection,  
26          each grant amount shall be reduced on a pro rata basis.

27          (d) Supplemental grants.--

28          (1) The department shall provide a supplemental grant  
29          amount to any school entity that has applied for grant funds  
30          under section 1611-B(c) and has at least one low-income

1 concurrent student enrolled in a concurrent course. The  
2 supplemental grant amount shall equal the cost of tuition,  
3 books and fees for which a low-income concurrent student is  
4 responsible in order to enroll in a concurrent course.

5 (2) (i) The total amount of grant funds available under  
6 this subsection shall equal [15%] 30% of the total amount  
7 of funds appropriated for concurrent enrollment programs  
8 under this article. Where funds available for  
9 supplemental grants are insufficient to fund the full  
10 amount of all supplemental grants under this subsection,  
11 supplemental grant amounts shall be reduced on a pro rata  
12 basis.

13 (ii) Where the total amount of supplemental grants  
14 provided on behalf of low-income concurrent students is  
15 less than the total amount of grant funds available under  
16 this paragraph, any unexpended grant funds shall be made  
17 available for other concurrent students.

18 (e) Technical assistance.--Upon request of a board of school  
19 directors of a school entity, the department shall provide  
20 technical assistance in the development of concurrent enrollment  
21 agreements and concurrent enrollment programs.

22 (f) Annual report.--The department shall produce an annual  
23 report on concurrent enrollment programs using the reporting  
24 information submitted by school entities under section 1611-  
25 B(b). The annual report shall be provided to the chairman and  
26 minority chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate,  
27 the chairman and minority chairman of the Appropriations  
28 Committee of the House of Representatives, the chairman and  
29 minority chairman of the Education Committee of the Senate and  
30 the chairman and minority chairman of the Education Committee of

1 the House of Representatives no later than February 1, 2007, and  
2 February 1 of each year thereafter. The report shall be  
3 published on the department's publicly accessible website.

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, or  
5 immediately, whichever is later.