

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 628 Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY SCHRODER, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, ROSS, ARMSTRONG,  
BARRAR, CALTAGIRONE, CIVERA, CLYMER, CRAHALLA, CREIGHTON,  
DeWEESE, FORCIER, GEIST, GINGRICH, M. KELLER, KILLION, LEH,  
McCALL, METCALFE, MUSTIO, PALLONE, REICHLEY, ROHRER,  
SCAVELLO, STERN, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, WHEATLEY, WILT AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, FEBRUARY 16, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 16, 2005

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 annual budget;  
6 prescribing a penalty; and making an editorial change.

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

9 Section 1. Section 687(a) of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is  
11 amended to read:

12 Section 687. Annual Budget; Additional or Increased  
13 Appropriations; Transfer of Funds.--(a) (1) The board of  
14 school directors of each school district of the second, third,  
15 or fourth class shall, annually, at least thirty (30) days prior  
16 to the adoption of the annual budget, prepare a proposed budget  
17 of the amount of funds that will be required by the school  
18 district in its several departments for the following fiscal

1 year. Such proposed budget shall be prepared on a uniform form,  
2 prepared and furnished by the Department of [Public Instruction]  
3 Education, and shall be apportioned to the several classes of  
4 expenditures of the district as the board of school directors  
5 thereof may determine. Final action shall not be taken on any  
6 proposed budget, in which the estimated expenditures exceed two  
7 thousand dollars (\$2000), until after ten (10) days' public  
8 notice. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prevent any  
9 school district, whose total estimated expenditures do not  
10 exceed two thousand dollars (\$2000), from holding a public  
11 hearing.

12 (2) (i) The proposed budget in the format required by the  
13 Department of Education, all proposed line item expenditures,  
14 and a list of the several classes of expenditures and the types  
15 of expenditures included under each class shall be printed, or  
16 otherwise made available for public inspection and duplication  
17 to all persons who may interest themselves, at least twenty (20)  
18 days prior to the date set for the adoption of the budget.

19 (ii) Fees for duplication under this paragraph by  
20 photocopying, printing from electronic media or microfilm,  
21 copying onto electronic media, transmission by facsimile or  
22 other electronic means and other means of duplication must be  
23 reasonable and based on prevailing fees for comparable  
24 duplication services provided by local business entities.

25 (iii) An agency or public official who violates this  
26 paragraph with the intent and purpose of violating this  
27 paragraph commits a summary offense subject to prosecution by  
28 the Attorney General or the appropriate district attorney and  
29 shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more  
30 than \$300 per incident plus costs of prosecution.

1        (iv) For the purposes of this paragraph, "public official"  
2 shall mean a member of the school board of directors, chief  
3 financial officer, superintendent or any other school official  
4 empowered by the board of directors to oversee the creation and  
5 enactment of the annual budget of the district.

6        \* \* \*

7        Section 2. This act shall take effect in 30 days.