AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," in school safety and security, further providing for School Safety and Security Grant Program and providing for COVID-19 disaster emergency school health and safety grants for 2021-2022 school year and for COVID-19 disaster emergency targeted health and safety grants for 2021-2022 school year.

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

Section 1. Section 1306-B(h) of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a paragraph to read:

Section 1306-B. School Safety and Security Grant Program.

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(h) School Safety and Security Fund.--

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(9) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the 2021-2022 fiscal year, $10,000,000 of the money in the
fund shall be used for grants under sections 1314-B and 1315-B. The committee shall ensure that:

(i) grant money is distributed equitably for both sets of grants under sections 1314-B and 1315-B, so that grants are not exclusively or primarily allocated under only one section; and

(ii) the per-student allocations for intermediate units on behalf of nonpublic schools do not exceed the per-student allocations for school entities, as defined in section 1314-B(f).

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Section 2. The act is amended by adding sections to read:

Section 1314-B. COVID-19 disaster emergency school health and safety grants for 2021-2022 school year.

(a) Funding.--For the 2021-2022 school year, the amount of money available under section 1306-B(h)(9) shall be used by the committee to award school health and safety grants to school entities as a result of the COVID-19 disaster emergency.

(b) Purposes of grants.--Each school entity shall be eligible for a school health and safety grant as a result of the COVID-19 disaster emergency for the following purposes:

(1) Purchasing of cleaning and sanitizing products that meet the criteria for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or Department of Health.

(2) Purchasing of equipment, including personal protective equipment, thermometers, infrared cameras and other necessary items.

(3) Modification of existing areas to effectuate appropriate social distancing to ensure the health and safety of students and staff.
(c) Applications.--

(1) The committee shall develop and make an application available to school entities no later than October 20, 2021.

(2) The application shall include the following information:

(i) Contact information for the school entity.

(ii) The specific purpose for which the grant shall be utilized, based upon the categories specified in subsection (b), with boxes on the application for the applicant to indicate the anticipated use of the grant money.

(iii) Certification by the applicant that the funds will be used for the stated purpose.

(iv) Any other information required by the committee.

(3) Each school entity must submit an application for grant money no later than October 30, 2021.

(d) Amount of grants.--The committee shall allocate grants on or before November 15, 2021, to each school entity that submits an application, in an amount determined as follows:

(1) Multiply the 2019-2020 average daily membership for each school district by the amount available in subsection (a).

(2) Divide the product from paragraph (1) by the 2019-2020 average daily membership for all school districts.

(e) Audit and monitoring.--The committee shall randomly audit and monitor grant recipients to ensure the appropriate use of grant money and compliance with provisions of the grant program.

(f) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"COVID-19 disaster emergency." The disaster emergency as described in the proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.

"School entity." As follows:

(1) A school district, area career and technical school, intermediate unit, charter school or regional charter school.

(2) The term does not include a cyber charter school.

Section 1315-B. COVID-19 disaster emergency targeted health and safety grants for 2021-2022 school year.

(a) Funding.--For the 2021-2022 school year, the amount of money available under 1306-B(h)(9) shall be used by the committee to award targeted grants to intermediate units on behalf of nonpublic schools as a result of the COVID-19 disaster emergency.

(b) Purpose of targeted grants.--Targeted health and safety grant awards shall be made by the committee to intermediate units on behalf of nonpublic schools to fund the following programs, items or services that address the results of the COVID-19 disaster emergency:

(1) Purchasing of cleaning and sanitizing products that meet the criteria specified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health.

(2) Purchasing of equipment, including personal protective equipment, thermometers, infrared cameras and other necessary items.

(3) Modification of existing areas to effectuate appropriate social distancing to ensure the health and safety
of students and staff.

(c) Applications.--

(1) The committee shall develop and make an application available to intermediate units to apply for targeted grants on behalf of nonpublic schools no later than October 20, 2021.

(2) The committee shall notify intermediate units and nonpublic schools of the availability of grants under this program, including the deadlines for application.

(3) An intermediate unit may apply for targeted grants upon the request of a nonpublic school or combination of nonpublic schools located within the intermediate unit.

(4) The application shall include the following information:

(i) Contact information for the intermediate unit and the nonpublic school.

(ii) The specific purpose for which the targeted grant shall be utilized, based upon the categories in subsection (b), with boxes on the application for the applicant to indicate the anticipated use of the targeted grant money.

(iii) Certification by the applicant that the funds will be used for the stated purpose.

(iv) Any other information required by the committee.

(5) Intermediate units must submit applications on behalf of a nonpublic school or combination of nonpublic schools no later than November 8, 2021.

(d) Targeted grant allocation.--

(1) Targeted grants shall be allocated through a grant
review process established by the committee.

(2) The targeted grant awards shall be geographically dispersed.

(3) No intermediate unit on behalf of a nonpublic school shall be awarded a targeted grant that exceeds $10,000. For targeted grant applications made by an intermediate unit on behalf of a combination of nonpublic schools, the targeted grant shall not exceed the value of the number of schools for which the intermediate unit is making the combined application multiplied by $10,000.

(4) The committee shall award targeted grants by December 1, 2021.

(e) Audit and monitoring.--The committee shall randomly audit and monitor targeted grant recipients to ensure the appropriate use of the targeted grant money and compliance with provisions of the program applicable to targeted grants.

(f) Limitations.--In carrying out the duties of this section, the intermediate unit may not use more than 2% of the money the intermediate unit receives under this section for targeted grant administration.

(g) Definition.--As used in this section, the term "COVID-19 disaster emergency" means the disaster emergency as described in the proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.