THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2154 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY ROZZI, KHAN, HILL-EVANS, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, BELLMON, DELLOSO, SCOTT AND CONKLIN, MARCH 25, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 25, 2024

AN ACT

- 1 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 reimbursements by Commonwealth and
- between school districts, providing for reimbursements for
- 7 merged school districts.
- 8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 9 hereby enacts as follows:
- 10 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known
- 11 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a
- 12 section to read:
- 13 <u>Section 2503.2. Reimbursements for Merged School</u>
- 14 <u>Districts.--(a) When two or more school districts form a merged</u>
- 15 <u>school district</u>, <u>beginning in the 2024-2025 school year and each</u>
- 16 school year thereafter, the Commonwealth shall, based on the
- 17 cost calculated by the Department of Education under subsection
- 18 (b), reimburse the merged school district for the cost of all of
- 19 the following:
- 20 (1) The additional cost per pupil associated with the

- 1 merger.
- 2 (2) The additional administrative cost associated with the
- 3 merger.
- 4 (3) A project associated with the merger, including the cost
- 5 for acquiring and preparing a site, constructing or acquiring a
- 6 <u>building or preparing a building for school use</u>, necessary
- 7 equipment, taxes chargeable to the project, necessary architect
- 8 fees and a reasonable amount of the cost for contingencies and
- 9 <u>for other necessary incidental expenses.</u>
- 10 (b) The Department of Education shall calculate the cost
- 11 <u>associated with a merger under subsection (a) beginning in the</u>
- 12 <u>first school year that commences after the merger under</u>
- 13 <u>subsection</u> (a) and ending in the fifth school year thereafter.
- 14 The Commonwealth shall reimburse the merged school district in
- 15 accordance with subsection (a) for the amount calculated by the
- 16 Department of Education under this subsection.
- 17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.