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 finances, establishing the Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools Grant Program.

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

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

Section 618. Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools Grant Program.--(a) The Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools Grant Program is established in the department for the purpose of allocating grant money to school entities to provide or expand access to technology and technological equipment for students who do not have the means to purchase technology and technological equipment or who do not have access to the Internet at home.

(b) A grant received by a school entity shall be used for
the purchase of, or for reimbursement of the school entity's purchase of, technology and technological equipment that can be used by the school entity's students in school or at home.

(c) 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:

"School entity." A school district, joint school district, intermediate unit, charter school or area career and technical school.

"Technology and technological equipment." The term includes, but is not limited to, laptops, tablets, hot spot access devices and other electronic mobile devices.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.