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," establishing the Digital Protection School Safety Account; and providing for duties of school entities and the department.

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 an article to read:

ARTICLE XIII-E

DIGITAL PROTECTION SCHOOL SAFETY ACCOUNT

Section 1301-E. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this article shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Account." The Digital Protection School Safety Restricted Revenue Account established under section 1302-E.
"Department." The Department of Education of the Commonwealth.

"School entity." A school district, intermediate unit, area vocational-technical school, charter school, cyber charter school or regional charter school.

Section 1302-E. Establishment of account.

(a) Establishment.--The Digital Protection School Safety Restricted Revenue Account is established as a restricted revenue account within the General Fund. The following shall be deposited into the account:

(1) Money collected by the Department of Revenue and designated for school safety initiatives.

(2) Money allocated to the account by the General Assembly.

(3) Voluntary contributions to the account.

(4) Interest generated from the money in the account.

(b) Appropriations.--Money in the account is appropriated to the department on a continuing basis for distribution to school entities for the purposes specified under section 1303-E.

(c) Administration.--

(1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), the department may coordinate with a State agency or nongovernmental organization as necessary to distribute the money in the account for the purposes specified under section 1303-E.

(2) The department may not enter into an agreement or contract with a State agency or nongovernmental organization for staffing functions regarding the distribution of money in the account for the purposes specified under section 1303-E.

Section 1303-E. Duties of school entities.
A school entity shall use the money received under section 1302-E(b) to implement school safety and violence prevention measures through the use of security-related equipment and training, including any of the following:

- Student, staff and visitor identification systems.
- Metal detectors.
- Protective lighting.
- Surveillance equipment.
- Special emergency communications equipment.
- Electronic locksets.
- Deadbolts and theft control devices.
- Training in the use of the security-related technology.
- Other one-time school safety and violence prevention measures approved by the department.

Section 1304-E. Duties of department.

(a) Submission.--By July 30, 2019, and each July 30 thereafter, the department shall submit an annual report on the status of the account to all of the following:

- The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate.
- The chair and minority chair of the Education Committee of the Senate.
- The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives.
- The chair and minority chair of the Education Committee of the House of Representatives.

(b) Contents.--The report under subsection (a) shall include information on all of the following:

- The total amount of money distributed from the
account in the prior year to each school entity.

(2) The use of the money distributed from the account and the cost for each school safety and violence prevention measure.

(3) The participation by a State agency or nongovernmental organization as authorized under section 1302-E(c).

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.