THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 564

Session of 2003

INTRODUCED BY BUNT, DeWEESE, HARPER, CURRY, BARD, BELFANTI, CAPPELLI, CIVERA, CLYMER, DAILEY, DALEY, DALLY, FREEMAN, GODSHALL, HARHART, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HORSEY, JAMES, JOSEPHS, LaGROTTA, LAUGHLIN, LEH, MANN, MARKOSEK, NAILOR, ROSS, RUBLEY, SAYLOR, SEMMEL, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TRAVAGLIO, TURZAI, VANCE, WEBER, WILT, YOUNGBLOOD, YUDICHAK, WASHINGTON AND ROEBUCK, MARCH 3, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 3, 2003

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
- 3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial
- schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the
- laws relating thereto, "further providing for community
- 6 college financial programs and reimbursements; establishing
- 7 the Community College Nonmandated Capital Fund; and
- 8 abrogating a regulation.
- 9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 10 hereby enacts as follows:
- 11 Section 1. Section 1902-A of the act of March 10, 1949
- 12 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added
- 13 July 1, 1985 (P.L.103, No.31), is amended to read:
- 14 Section 1902-A. Powers and Duties of State Board of
- 15 Education.--(a) The State Board of Education shall have the
- 16 power, and its duty shall be:
- 17 (1) To adopt such policies, standards, rules and regulations
- 18 formulated by the Council of Higher Education, as may be

- 1 necessary to provide for the establishment, operation and
- 2 maintenance of community colleges, including minimum
- 3 requirements for physical facilities and equipment, curriculum,
- 4 faculty, standards and professional requirements, qualifications
- 5 for admission and advancement of students, student enrollment,
- 6 student population of the area to be served by the community
- 7 college, requirements for satisfactory completion of a two-year
- 8 program and the degrees or diplomas or certificates to be
- 9 awarded therefor, means of financing and financial resources for
- 10 the establishment and support of the community college, and all
- 11 matters necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.
- 12 (2) To approve or disapprove plans for the establishment or
- 13 operation of a community college.
- 14 (3) To approve or disapprove petitions of school districts
- 15 or municipalities applying for participation in an established
- 16 community college. No petition may be approved unless it is
- 17 accompanied by the consent of the governing bodies of the
- 18 majority of the members of the local sponsor of the established
- 19 community college to the participation of the petitioning school
- 20 district or municipality.
- 21 (b) In determining such policies, standards, rules and
- 22 regulations, the State Board of Education may consider relevant
- 23 all minimum requirements established by statute or by regulation
- 24 with respect to the State colleges and universities of the
- 25 Commonwealth and may consider relevant such minimum requirements
- 26 established by statute or by regulation with respect to
- 27 secondary and special education programs in the school district
- 28 or districts of the area to be served by the community college.
- 29 Regulations promulgated under this article shall take effect at
- 30 the beginning of the school year following promulgation.

- 1 (c) In approving or disapproving such plans, the State Board
- 2 of Education shall consider the needs of areas adjacent to the
- 3 areas to be served by the community college and of the State
- 4 with respect to higher education and long range plans therefor
- 5 established by the State Board of Education. Other school
- 6 districts and municipalities may petition the State Board of
- 7 Education to become a part of a local sponsor as hereafter in
- 8 this act provided.
- 9 (d) No plan for the establishment of a community college
- 10 shall be approved unless the State Board of Education determines
- 11 that the local sponsor has a population of a sufficient number
- 12 to assure a sustained minimum enrollment, has sufficient wealth
- 13 to financially support such college and is not adequately served
- 14 by established institutions of higher learning. No plan for the
- 15 establishment of a community college shall be approved unless it
- 16 contains an estimate of operating cost for administration,
- 17 instruction, operation and maintenance and such other accounts
- 18 as the State Board of Education may, from time to time,
- 19 determine. No plan for the establishment of a community college
- 20 shall be approved unless it contains an estimate of any proposed
- 21 capital improvements for the next following ten years.
- 22 (e) To confer with and obtain the approval of the Governor's
- 23 Office as to the number of community colleges which can be
- 24 approved for participation during the ensuing fiscal period.
- 25 (f) Wherever in this act the approval of the State Board of
- 26 Education is required in any matter, the State Board of
- 27 Education may require the Department of Education to make and
- 28 report its findings and recommendations on such matter to the
- 29 Council of Higher Education for the formulation of policies,
- 30 standards, rules and regulations for consideration by the State

- 1 Board of Education.
- 2 Section 2. Section 1913-A of the act, amended or added July
- 3 1, 1985 (P.L.103, No.31), October 20, 1988 (P.L.827, No.110),
- 4 June 7, 1993 (P.L.49, No.16) and June 22, 2001 (P.L.530, No.35),
- 5 is amended to read:
- 6 Section 1913-A. Financial Program; Reimbursement of
- 7 Payments.--(a) The plan submitted by the local sponsor shall
- 8 set forth a financial program for the operation of the community
- 9 college. The plan shall provide that the local sponsor shall
- 10 appropriate or provide to the community college an amount at
- 11 least equal to the community college's annual operating costs
- 12 less the student tuition as determined in section 1908-A(a) less
- 13 the Commonwealth's payment as determined in subsection (b)(1) of
- 14 this section. The plan shall also provide that one-half of the
- 15 annual capital expenses shall be appropriated or provided by the
- 16 local sponsor to the community college. The local sponsor's
- 17 appropriation for annual operating costs and annual capital
- 18 expenses may in part be represented by real or personal property
- 19 or services made available to the community college. The plan
- 20 shall indicate whether the appropriation shall come from general
- 21 revenues, loan funds, special tax levies or from other sources,
- 22 including student tuitions.
- 23 (b) (1) The Commonwealth shall pay to a community college
- 24 on behalf of the sponsor on account of its operating costs
- 25 during the fiscal year from funds appropriated for that purpose
- 26 an amount equal to:
- 27 (i) for the 1993-1994 fiscal year through the 2000-2001
- 28 fiscal year, the lesser of such college's variable State share
- 29 ceiling as determined in clause (1.3) or such college's
- 30 equivalent full-time student reimbursement as determined in

- 1 clause (1.4); and
- 2 (ii) for the 2001-2002 fiscal year and each fiscal year
- 3 thereafter, the college's equivalent full-time student
- 4 reimbursement as determined in clause (1.4).
- 5 (1.2) The Secretary of Education, in consultation with the
- 6 community colleges, shall promulgate standards for credit
- 7 courses and for noncredit courses that will be eligible for
- 8 Commonwealth reimbursement. The standards shall specifically
- 9 exclude from eligibility for reimbursement any course or program
- 10 in avocational or recreational pursuits. The standards shall be
- 11 promulgated by the beginning of the 1994-1995 fiscal year. Until
- 12 such standards are promulgated, no community college will be
- 13 reimbursed for any credit course which was offered by such
- 14 college as a noncredit course during the college's 1992-1993
- 15 fiscal year.
- 16 (1.3) The variable State share ceiling of a community
- 17 college shall be determined as follows:
- 18 (i) Subtract the taxable income per person of the local
- 19 sponsor from the highest taxable income per person of any county
- 20 in the Commonwealth.
- 21 (ii) Divide the amount determined under subclause (i) by the
- 22 difference between the highest taxable income per person of any
- 23 county in the Commonwealth and the lowest taxable income per
- 24 person of any county in the Commonwealth.
- 25 (iii) Multiply the quotient determined under subclause (ii)
- 26 by one-sixth.
- 27 (iv) Add one-third to the product determined under paragraph
- 28 (iii).
- (v) Multiply the sum determined under subclause (iv) by the
- 30 community college's operating costs in the year for which

- 1 reimbursement is being claimed.
- 2 (vi) The taxable income per person data used in the
- 3 preceding calculation shall be data certified to the Secretary
- 4 of Education by the Secretary of Revenue under section 2501(9.1)
- 5 for school district local sponsors or data otherwise published
- 6 by the Secretary of Revenue for a municipal local sponsor.
- 7 (1.4) The equivalent full-time student reimbursement of a
- 8 community college shall be the sum of credit course, noncredit
- 9 course and stipend reimbursements. These reimbursements shall be
- 10 calculated using a reimbursement factor of one thousand and
- 11 forty dollars (\$1,040) for the 1993-1994 fiscal year, of one
- 12 thousand eighty dollars (\$1,080) for the 1994-1995 fiscal year
- 13 and of one thousand one hundred eighty dollars (\$1,180) for the
- 14 1995-1996 fiscal year and one thousand and two hundred and ten
- 15 dollars (\$1,210) for the 1996-1997 fiscal year and one thousand
- 16 two hundred sixty dollars (\$1,260) for the 1997-1998 fiscal year
- 17 and the 1998-1999 fiscal year and one thousand three hundred
- 18 dollars (\$1,300) for the 1999-2000 fiscal year and one thousand
- 19 four hundred dollars (\$1,400) for the 2000-2001 fiscal year and
- 20 one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) for the 2001-2002
- 21 fiscal year and for each year thereafter and shall be determined
- 22 as follows:
- 23 (i) Credit course reimbursement shall be calculated by
- 24 multiplying the reimbursement factor by the number of equivalent
- 25 full-time students enrolled in credit courses as determined by
- 26 an audit to be made in a manner prescribed by the State Board of
- 27 Education. The following apply:
- 28 (A) Course enrollment is to be determined by the standards
- 29 of the community college.
- 30 (B) Computer-based documentation or paper-based

- 1 <u>documentation may be used to verify enrollment.</u>
- 2 (C) Enrollment in a program of study is to be determined
- 3 solely by the declaration of the student.
- 4 (ii) Noncredit course reimbursement shall be calculated as
- 5 follows:
- 6 (A) [eighty] Eighty percent (80%) of the reimbursement
- 7 factor multiplied by the number of equivalent full-time students
- 8 enrolled in eligible noncredit courses for the 1993-1994 fiscal
- 9 year, as determined by the audit referred to in paragraph
- 10 (i)[;].
- 11 (B) [seventy] <u>Seventy</u> percent (70%) of the reimbursement
- 12 factor multiplied by the number of equivalent full-time students
- 13 enrolled in eligible noncredit courses for the 1994-1995 fiscal
- 14 year and for each year thereafter, as determined by the audit
- 15 referred to in paragraph (i)[; or].
- 16 (C) [one] One hundred percent (100%) of the reimbursement
- 17 factor multiplied by the number of equivalent full-time students
- 18 enrolled in eligible noncredit public safety courses that
- 19 provide training for volunteer firefighters and emergency
- 20 medical services for the 1995-1996 fiscal year and for each year
- 21 thereafter, as determined by the audit referred to in paragraph
- 22 (i).
- 23 (D) A noncredit course is eligible for reimbursement if any
- 24 of the following apply:
- 25 (I) The course is in the area of public safety; adult basic
- 26 <u>education or adult literacy; occupational skills; academics; or</u>
- 27 a program for certification in accordance with standards
- 28 <u>established by statute, regulation or appropriate industry.</u>
- 29 (II) Regardless of whether the instructor's compensation is
- 30 paid directly by the community college or paid by an entity that

- 1 contracts with the community college, the community college is
- 2 responsible for selecting; supervising; and, if appropriate,
- 3 <u>dismissing the instructor</u>.
- 4 (E) Course enrollment is to be determined by the standards
- 5 of the community college.
- 6 (iii) Stipend reimbursement on account of a community
- 7 college's operating costs for all equivalent full-time students
- 8 enrolled in the following categories of two-year or less than
- 9 two-year occupational or technical programs, shall be the sum of
- 10 the following:
- 11 (A) One thousand one hundred dollars (\$1,100) per full-time
- 12 equivalent student enrolled in advanced technology programs. For
- 13 the fiscal year 1995-1996, 1996-1997 and 1997-1998, the
- 14 reimbursement rate shall be calculated at one thousand one
- 15 hundred seventy-five dollars (\$1,175) per full-time equivalent
- 16 student enrolled in advanced technology programs. For the fiscal
- 17 year 1998-1999 and each year thereafter, the reimbursement rate
- 18 shall be calculated at one thousand four hundred sixty dollars
- 19 (\$1,460) per full-time equivalent student enrolled in advanced
- 20 technology programs. Advanced technology programs are programs
- 21 using new or advanced technologies which hold promise for
- 22 creating new job opportunities, including such fields as
- 23 robotics, biotechnology, specialized materials and engineering
- 24 and engineering-related programs.
- 25 (B) One thousand dollars (\$1,000) per full-time equivalent
- 26 student enrolled in programs designated as Statewide programs.
- 27 For the fiscal year 1995-1996, 1996-1997 and 1997-1998, the
- 28 reimbursement rate shall be calculated at one thousand seventy-
- 29 five dollars (\$1,075) per full-time equivalent student enrolled
- 30 in programs designated as Statewide programs. For the fiscal

- 1 year 1998-1999 and each year thereafter, the reimbursement rate
- 2 shall be calculated at one thousand three hundred sixty dollars
- 3 (\$1,360) per full-time equivalent student enrolled in programs
- 4 designated as Statewide programs. A Statewide program is a
- 5 program which meets one or more of the following criteria:
- 6 (I) Program enrollment from out-of-sponsor area is twenty
- 7 per cent or more of the enrollment for the program.
- 8 (II) A consortial arrangement exists with another community
- 9 college to cooperatively operate a program or share regions in
- 10 order to avoid unnecessary program duplication.
- 11 (C) Five hundred dollars (\$500) per full-time equivalent
- 12 student enrolled in other occupational or technical programs.
- 13 For the fiscal year 1995-1996, 1996-1997 and 1997-1998, the
- 14 reimbursement rate shall be calculated at five hundred seventy-
- 15 five dollars (\$575) per full-time equivalent student enrolled in
- 16 other occupational or technical programs. For the fiscal year
- 17 1998-1999 and each year thereafter, the reimbursement rate shall
- 18 be calculated at eight hundred sixty dollars (\$860) per full-
- 19 time equivalent student enrolled in other occupational or
- 20 technical programs.
- 21 (2) For the 1993-1994 fiscal year, each community college
- 22 shall be reimbursed under clause (1) in an amount which is at
- 23 least equal to a one percent (1%) increase over its 1992-1993
- 24 operating cost and stipend reimbursement. In no case shall a
- 25 community college's 1993-1994 reimbursement under clause (1) per
- 26 full-time equivalent student, insofar as said reimbursement does
- 27 not include a proportionate share attributable to stipend
- 28 reimbursement under clause (1.4)(iii), exceed its 1992-1993
- 29 operating cost reimbursement per full-time equivalent student by
- 30 more than ten percent (10%).

- 1 (2.1) For the 1994-1995 fiscal year, each community college
- 2 shall be reimbursed under clause (1) in an amount which is at
- 3 least equal to a one percent (1%) increase over its 1993-1994
- 4 reimbursement under clause (1). In no case shall a community
- 5 college's 1994-1995 reimbursement under clause (1) per full-time
- 6 equivalent student, insofar as said reimbursement does not
- 7 include the proportionate share attributable to stipend
- 8 reimbursement under clause (1.4)(iii), exceed its 1993-1994
- 9 reimbursement under clause (1) per full-time equivalent student,
- 10 insofar as said reimbursement does not include the proportionate
- 11 share attributable to stipend reimbursement under clause
- 12 (1.4)(iii) by more than ten percent (10%).
- 13 (2.2) For the 1995-1996 fiscal year, each community college
- 14 shall be reimbursed under clause (1) in an amount which is at
- 15 least equal to its 1994-1995 reimbursement under clause (1).
- 16 (3) The [Secretary] <u>Department</u> of Education [annually] shall
- 17 [establish] promulgate regulations establishing criteria to be
- 18 used to determine eligibility of programs for each of the above
- 19 stipend categories[,]. The department shall approve programs for
- 20 funding [in the following fiscal year] according to these
- 21 [criteria and] regulations. The Secretary of Education shall
- 22 submit to chairmen of the committees of education in the House
- 23 of Representatives and Senate a report setting forth [the
- 24 established criteria,] any programs approved for funding under
- 25 these [criteria] <u>regulations</u> and the recipient community
- 26 colleges.
- 27 (4) Each community college shall maintain such accounting
- 28 and student attendance records on generally accepted auditing
- 29 principles and standards [as will lend themselves to
- 30 satisfactory audit]. Beginning with the 2003-2004 fiscal year

- 1 and each year thereafter, the department must complete an audit
- 2 <u>of a community college for a school year within one year after</u>
- 3 the completion of that school year. If the department does not
- 4 meet the time requirement of this clause, the community college
- 5 <u>affected shall be required to forfeit reimbursement only for an</u>
- 6 intentional violation or for a violation of previously cited and
- 7 <u>resolved findings.</u> The Commonwealth shall pay to a community
- 8 college on behalf of the sponsor on account of its capital
- 9 expenses an amount equal to one-half of such college's annual
- 10 capital expenses from funds appropriated for that purpose to the
- 11 extent that said capital expenses have been approved as herein
- 12 provided.
- 13 (5) For purposes of determining Commonwealth reimbursement
- 14 of operating costs, Federally funded expenditures for those
- 15 programs in which the Commonwealth participates in the cost
- 16 shall be deducted from total operating expenditures to determine
- 17 net reimbursable operating costs.
- 18 (c) Capital expenses shall mean only such expenses as are
- 19 incurred with the approval of the Department of Education for
- 20 amortization of the purchase of lands; purchase, construction or
- 21 improvement of buildings for administrative and instructional
- 22 purposes, including libraries; the lease of lands or buildings,
- 23 or for rentals to an authority for the same purpose; and for the
- 24 purchase, lease or rental of capital equipment and furniture
- 25 used for instructional or administrative purposes. Capital
- 26 expenses shall include library books and complementary audio-
- 27 visual equipment purchased during the first five years after
- 28 establishment. For the purpose of calculating the Commonwealth's
- 29 share of operating, and capital costs incurred prior to the
- 30 actual admission of students to a community college, all such

- 1 costs shall be interpreted as capital costs. No costs and
- 2 expenses incurred in the establishment, construction, operation
- 3 or maintenance of dormitories, or the equipment or furnishings
- 4 for such purposes, shall be included in capital expenses or
- 5 operating costs for purposes of Commonwealth reimbursement. The
- 6 provisions of this subsection shall not prevent the Commonwealth
- 7 from reimbursing a community college for capital expenses
- 8 incurred prior to the effective date of this act. Such
- 9 reimbursement must have approval of the Secretary of Education.
- 10 (d) The State Board of Education shall adopt policies,
- 11 standards, rules and regulations for determining reimbursable
- 12 capital expenses and operating costs, and the Department of
- 13 Education shall approve such expenses and costs for the purpose
- 14 of reimbursement by the Commonwealth.
- 15 (e) The State Board of Education shall apply for, receive
- 16 and administer, subject to any applicable regulations or laws of
- 17 the Federal Government or any agency thereof, any Federal
- 18 grants, appropriations, allocations and programs to fulfill the
- 19 purpose of this act.
- 20 (f) All administrative personnel, faculty, and other
- 21 employes of the community colleges in the Commonwealth shall be
- 22 eligible for inclusion in the Public School Employees'
- 23 Retirement System of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania State
- 24 Employees' Retirement System, or any independent retirement
- 25 program approved by the Board of Trustees of a community
- 26 college, and the Secretary of Education.
- 27 (q) The community college in the Commonwealth shall be
- 28 eligible for participation in the act of July 5, 1947 (P.L.1217,
- 29 No.498), known as the "State Public School Building Authority
- 30 Act, and [the act of May 2, 1945 (P.L.382, No.164), known as

- 1 the "Municipality Authorities Act of 1945."] 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 56
- 2 (relating to municipal authorities).
- 3 (h) In all cases where the board of trustees of any
- 4 community college fails to pay or provide for the payment of any
- 5 rental or rentals due the State Public School Building Authority
- 6 or any municipality authority for any period in accordance with
- 7 the terms of any lease entered into between the board of
- 8 trustees of any community college and the State Public School
- 9 Building Authority or any municipality authority, or fails to
- 10 pay or to provide for the payment of any other indebtedness when
- 11 due, upon written notice thereof from the State Public School
- 12 Building Authority or any municipality authority, or in such
- 13 cases where an audit reveals any unpaid indebtedness due, the
- 14 Secretary of Education shall notify the board of trustees of its
- 15 obligation and shall withhold out of any State appropriation
- 16 that may be due to such community college an amount equal to the
- 17 amount of rental or rentals owing by such board of trustees to
- 18 the State Public School Building Authority or any municipality
- 19 authority, or an amount equal to the amount of any other
- 20 indebtedness owing by such board of trustees, and shall pay over
- 21 the amount or amounts so withheld to the State Public School
- 22 Building Authority or any municipality authority or to
- 23 whomsoever any other indebtedness is due and owing.
- 24 (i) The amount payable to each community college Board of
- 25 Trustees on behalf of the sponsor shall be paid in the year in
- 26 which the costs and expenses are incurred in quarterly
- 27 installments and the Secretary of Education shall draw his
- 28 requisition quarterly upon the State Treasurer in favor of each
- 29 community college for the amount of reimbursement to which it is
- 30 entitled. Reimbursement or payment by the Commonwealth for the

- 1 operational expenses and capital equipment and the furnishings
- 2 shall be made on or before the end of the fiscal quarters ended
- 3 on September 30, December 31, March 31 and June 30 of each
- 4 Commonwealth fiscal year. Reimbursements or payments shall be
- 5 made semi-annually for the Commonwealth's share of the annual
- 6 rentals to an authority or the sponsor or sinking fund or debt-
- 7 service payments and other leases upon submission of a community
- 8 college requisition in the form required by the Commonwealth,
- 9 the reimbursement or payment to be made from funds appropriated
- 10 for that purpose. Money that is appropriated under this
- 11 subsection but not expended by a community college Board of
- 12 Trustees shall not be distributed to a local sponsor.
- 13 (j) In no event shall the payments or final reimbursement
- 14 made by the department following audit exceed the appropriation
- 15 available for community colleges.
- 16 (k) (1) Unless otherwise prescribed by the State Board of
- 17 Education, the Commonwealth's fiscal audits of community
- 18 colleges under this section shall be conducted in accordance
- 19 with "Government Auditing Standards," latest revision,
- 20 promulgated by the United States General Accounting Office.
- 21 Written audit reports will be produced and will be sent to the
- 22 community college by the Commissioner of Postsecondary/Higher
- 23 Education. Any cost disallowed under findings contained in the
- 24 audit report shall be considered an adjudication within the
- 25 meaning of 2 Pa.C.S. (relating to administrative law and
- 26 procedure) and regulations promulgated thereunder.
- 27 (2) The Secretary of Education is hereby specifically
- 28 authorized and shall be required to resolve audit findings
- 29 involving disallowed costs that are contested by community
- 30 colleges except for audit findings that involve mathematical

- 1 errors, violation of regulations or alleged illegal activities.
- 2 The proposed resolution of the Secretary of Education shall not
- 3 be subject to the provisions of 2 Pa.C.S. The Secretary of
- 4 Education's notice to resolve audit findings shall be sent to
- 5 the community college in writing. The Secretary of Education may
- 6 resolve the audit findings by reducing the disallowed costs
- 7 related thereto in whole or in part.
- 8 (3) The Secretary of Education's notice to resolve an audit
- 9 finding by reducing or eliminating the disallowed costs must be
- 10 made contingent upon the community college developing and
- 11 implementing a corrective action plan to address the audit
- 12 finding. The community college must submit a corrective action
- 13 plan to the Secretary of Education within 60 business days after
- 14 receipt of the Secretary of Education's written notice to
- 15 resolve the audit finding. The Secretary of Education shall
- 16 approve, reject or alter the plan submitted by the community
- 17 college within thirty (30) days of submission. After the
- 18 community college receives written notice of approval or agrees
- 19 in writing to the Secretary of Education's alterations of the
- 20 corrective action plan, said plan shall be implemented and shall
- 21 be binding on the community college. Implementation of the
- 22 approved or agreed upon corrective action plan will be verified
- 23 by an audit conducted by the department no later than the end of
- 24 the fiscal year following the fiscal year during which the plan
- 25 is implemented. If no agreed upon corrective action plan is in
- 26 place within one year after the date of the Secretary of
- 27 Education's written notice to resolve audit findings or if the
- 28 agreed upon corrective action has not been implemented within
- 29 one year after the date of the Secretary of Education's written
- 30 notice to resolve the audit findings, then the Secretary of

- 1 Education is authorized to adjust payments to the community
- 2 college to collect any amounts due based upon the findings
- 3 contained in the audit report that was issued to the college by
- 4 the commissioner.
- 5 (4) The department shall deduct any amounts due the
- 6 Commonwealth as a result of audit findings that are resolved
- 7 under this subsection from any future payment due to the
- 8 community college from the Commonwealth. The Secretary of
- 9 Education is authorized to approve a payment schedule in cases
- 10 where immediate repayment of the full amount due the
- 11 Commonwealth would jeopardize the ability of the community
- 12 college to continue operations.
- 13 (5) Resolution authority provided to the Secretary of
- 14 Education in this subsection shall be limited to disallowed cost
- 15 findings relating to policy and/or administrative practices. The
- 16 resolution authority shall not be used for audit findings in
- 17 which the audited community college data and documentation is in
- 18 error, where a violation of applicable law or regulation is
- 19 found or where criminal violations are suspected by the
- 20 Commonwealth auditors and brought to the Secretary of
- 21 Education's attention in writing. Notwithstanding the
- 22 limitations of this subsection, until June 30, 1995, the
- 23 Secretary of Education is authorized to resolve audit findings
- 24 involving disallowed costs for fiscal years prior to and
- 25 including 1992-1993 when such disallowed costs result from
- 26 violation of regulations.
- 27 (6) The department, through the Secretary of Education, is
- 28 authorized to issue guidelines for the operation of the
- 29 community college educational and financial programs. The
- 30 department shall amend these quidelines on an annual basis to

- 1 reflect the department's position on issues that require
- 2 resolution under this subsection.
- 3 (7) The provisions of subsection (d) are repealed insofar as
- 4 they are inconsistent with the provisions of this subsection.
- 5 (1) For the fiscal year 1992-1993, if insufficient funds are
- 6 appropriated to make Commonwealth payments pursuant to this
- 7 section, such payments shall be made on a pro rata basis.
- 8 Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
- 9 <u>Section 1916-A. Community College Nonmandated Capital</u>
- 10 Fund. -- (a) The Community College Nonmandated Capital Fund is
- 11 <u>established as a separate fund in the State Treasury.</u>
- 12 (b) The sources of the fund are as follows:
- 13 (1) Reimbursements repaid by community colleges to the
- 14 Commonwealth pursuant to audits under section 1913-A and
- 15 <u>regulations under that section.</u>
- 16 (2) Appropriations.
- 17 (3) Earnings on money in the fund.
- 18 (c) The fund shall be used for nonmandated capital projects
- 19 <u>in community colleges. Guidelines for disbursement shall be</u>
- 20 <u>developed by the Department of Education in consultation with</u>
- 21 <u>community colleges.</u>
- 22 (d) The money in the fund is continuously appropriated to
- 23 the fund and shall not lapse at the end of any fiscal year.
- 24 Section 4. The following provisions of 22 Pa. Code are
- 25 abrogated:
- 26 (1) Section 35.61(f)(2).
- 27 (2) Section 335.22(3).
- 28 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.