

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## SENATE BILL

No. 414 Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY ROBBINS, JUBELIRER, EARLL, C. WILLIAMS, RHOADES,  
COSTA, CORMAN, PICCOLA, LAVALLE, ORIE, PILEGGI, KITCHEN,  
TOMLINSON, VANCE, BOSCOLA, PUNT, GREENLEAF, STOUT, ERICKSON,  
M. WHITE, WOZNIAK, LEMMOND, RAFFERTY, LOGAN, D. WHITE,  
GORDNER, TARTAGLIONE AND O'PAKE, MARCH 21, 2005

SENATOR WENGER, APPROPRIATIONS, RE-REPORTED AS AMENDED,  
JUNE 12, 2006

## AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," establishing the Science Technology  
6 Partnership Program; ~~and~~ providing for State grants; AND  
7 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION. <—

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 an  
12 article to read:

13 ARTICLE XV-F

14 SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS

15 Section 1501-F. Scope.

16 This article relates to science technology partnerships.

17 Section 1502-F. Definitions.

18 The following words and phrases when used in this article

1 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
2 context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 "Department." The Department of Education of the  
4 Commonwealth.

5 "Higher education institution." Any public or private two-  
6 year or four-year or higher postsecondary institution in this  
7 Commonwealth that has been accredited at the college level by an  
8 accrediting agency recognized by the Federal Secretary of  
9 Education.

10 "Nonpublic school." A school, other than a public school  
11 within this Commonwealth, wherein a resident of this  
12 Commonwealth may legally fulfill the compulsory school  
13 attendance requirements of this act and which meets the  
14 requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public  
15 Law 88-352, 78 Stat. 241).

16 "Program." The Science Technology Partnership Program  
17 established in section 1503-F (relating to Science Technology  
18 Partnership Program).

19 "Public school." Any school owned or operated by a public  
20 school district established under this act, including any school  
21 established pursuant to Article XVII-A (relating to charter  
22 schools).

23 "School." A public or nonpublic school.

24 "Science technology partnership" or "partnership." A science  
25 technology partnership established under section 1504-F  
26 (relating to science technology partnerships).

27 "Scientific or technical equipment." Technical or electronic  
28 equipment used in teaching science courses, including laboratory  
29 equipment. The equipment may include equipment that is not  
30 routinely used in the teaching of science but that is commonly

used in the workplace and the fields of health, environment,  
scientific research, biology, chemistry, geology or other earth  
sciences, physics or any other scientific field.

"Secretary." The Secretary of Education of the Commonwealth.  
Section 1503-F. Science Technology Partnership Program.

(a) Establishment.--The Science Technology Partnership  
Program is hereby established. The purpose of the program shall  
be to improve science education in schools and school districts  
that are members of science technology partnerships by:

(1) Making scientific or technical equipment available  
to students.

(2) Augmenting the science curriculum.

(3) Providing additional professional development  
opportunities to educators in the sciences.

(b) Administration.--The department shall administer a grant  
program that awards grants to qualified higher education  
institutions that are members of the science technology  
partnerships.

(c) Criteria for funding.--To implement the program, the  
department shall request proposals from higher education  
institutions that are members of science technology  
partnerships. To receive a grant under subsection (d), an  
institution must meet all of the following criteria:

(1) Have established a partnership consistent with the  
requirements of section 1504-F (relating to science  
technology partnerships) and provided a copy of the  
partnership agreement to the department.

(2) Demonstrate how the partnership will make science  
technology equipment available to students enrolled in  
schools that are partnership members.

1       (3) Demonstrate how the partnership will augment the  
2       science curriculum of schools that are partnership members.

3       (4) Demonstrate how the partnership will provide  
4       additional professional development opportunities to  
5       educators employed by schools or school districts that are  
6       partnership members.

7       (5) Have adopted a proposed budget describing the  
8       scientific and technical equipment that will be purchased or  
9       leased with grant funds.

10      (d) Grant awards.--The department shall award grants to  
11      higher education institutions that meet the criteria for funding  
12      under subsection (c). Grants shall be used for the purchase or  
13      lease of scientific or technical equipment and for the  
14      development of programs of instruction for members of a  
15      partnership.

16      Section 1504-F. Science technology partnerships.

17      (a) Establishment.--A higher education institution may form  
18      a partnership with schools or school districts and may  
19      subcontract with a nonprofit organization in order to implement  
20      the partnership agreement under subsection (b). A partnership  
21      must include a minimum of three public schools or school  
22      districts.

23      (b) Partnership agreement.--The higher education institution  
24      and the schools or school districts shall enter into a written  
25      agreement defining the responsibilities of the partnership  
26      members. The agreement shall include all of the following:

27              (1) The responsibilities of the higher education  
28              institution in providing services to each partnership member.

29              (2) The responsibilities of the schools or school  
30              districts in coordinating with the higher education

1 institution.

2 (3) A description of the scientific or technical  
3 equipment that shall be provided to each partnership member.

4 (4) A description of the program of instruction that  
5 will be provided to each partnership member by the higher  
6 education institution.

7 (5) The courses of science instruction and grade levels  
8 that will be augmented by scientific or technical equipment  
9 through the partnership and how scientific or technical  
10 equipment will be used to augment such courses of  
11 instruction.

12 (6) The manner in which access to scientific or  
13 technical equipment will be provided to students and  
14 teachers.

15 (7) The professional development activities that will be  
16 provided to science teachers employed by partnership members.

17 (c) Forward to department.--To be eligible to participate in  
18 the program, a partnership must forward a certified copy of its  
19 partnership agreement to the department.

20 Section 1505-F. Powers and duties of department.

21 The department shall promulgate rules, regulations and  
22 procedures necessary to implement the program.

23 Section 1506-F. Annual report.

24 The secretary shall annually submit a report on the program  
25 to the Governor, the chairman and minority chairman of the  
26 Education Committee of the Senate and the chairman and minority  
27 chairman of the Education Committee of the House of  
28 Representatives. The report shall include all of the following  
29 information:

30 (1) A description of the types of the partnerships

