

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1668 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY GERGELY, JULY 3, 2007

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JULY 3, 2007

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," further providing for education  
6 empowerment districts.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1705-B(h) of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
11 amended July 1, 2006 (P.L.1092, No.114), is amended to read:

12 Section 1705-B. Education Empowerment Districts.--\* \* \*

13 (h) (1) A school district under a declaration of distress  
14 pursuant to section 691(a) and certified as an education  
15 empowerment district shall be operated by a special board of  
16 control established under section 692. A board of control  
17 established under this section shall be abolished upon the  
18 appointment of a special board of control under section 692.

19 (2) For a school district under a declaration of distress

pursuant to section 691(a) and certified as an education empowerment district, the special board of control established under section 692 shall have the powers and duties of a special board of control under section 692 and the powers and duties contained in section 1706-B.

(3) For a school district with a history of low test performance that is certified as distressed for a minimum period of two (2) years under sections 691 and 692, the department shall waive the inclusion of the school district on the education empowerment list under section 1703-B(a) and immediately certify the school district as an education empowerment district.

(4) The department may utilize up to [\$3,500,000] \$4,500,000 of undistributed funds not expended, encumbered or committed from appropriations for grants and subsidies made to the department to assist school districts certified as an education empowerment district under paragraph (3). There is hereby established a restricted account from which payments under this paragraph shall be paid. Funds shall be transferred by the Secretary of the Budget to the restricted account to the extent necessary to make payments under this paragraph. Funds in the restricted account are hereby appropriated to carry out the purposes of this paragraph. The subsidy payment from this account shall be utilized to supplement the operational budget of the eligible school districts. This paragraph shall apply to fiscal years 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006 [and], 2006-2007 and [shall expire June 30, 2007] each fiscal year thereafter.

Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.