

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 930 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY GRUCELA, BARRAR, BELFANTI, BRENNAN, CALTAGIRONE, CARROLL, CREIGHTON, DALLY, DENLINGER, DONATUCCI, GEIST, GOODMAN, HARHAI, HORNAMAN, JOSEPHS, KAUFFMAN, KORTZ, KULA, MAJOR, MANN, MELIO, MICOZZIE, MUSTIO, OBERLANDER, M. O'BRIEN, PETRARCA, QUIGLEY, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, SABATINA, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, STERN, J. TAYLOR, WATSON AND WHEATLEY, MARCH 13, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 13, 2009

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," providing for technology grants to  
6 benefit students in nonpublic and private schools.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1505-A of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added  
11 April 27, 1998 (P.L.270, No.46), is amended to read:

12 Section 1505-A. Technology Grants for Equipment and  
13 Services.--(a) The purposes of the technology grants to benefit  
14 students in nonpublic and private schools are to:

15 (1) Improve the education Pennsylvania's nonpublic and  
16 private school students receive.

17 (2) Increase nonpublic and private students' access to

1 worldwide information, expertise and resources available through  
2 technology.

3 (3) Provide professional development opportunities to ensure  
4 nonpublic and private school teachers can use technology  
5 effectively with the curriculum.

6 (4) Complement Link-to-Learn's efforts and add value to the  
7 Pennsylvania Education Network by forging collaborative  
8 partnerships between educational institutions.

9 (5) Complement Federal technology initiatives.

10 (b) The Department of Education through intermediate units  
11 shall have the power and duty to purchase computer hardware,  
12 software, connectivity and related technology to loan them to  
13 all children residing in this Commonwealth who are enrolled in  
14 grades kindergarten through twelve of a nonpublic and private  
15 school and may provide professional development opportunities.  
16 The Secretary of Education shall establish a per capita formula  
17 based on the number of eligible students in nonpublic and  
18 private schools [and] in each intermediate unit. Funds shall be  
19 allocated to intermediate units who shall purchase and loan the  
20 equipment to such children based on the per capita formula  
21 established by the Secretary of Education and may provide  
22 professional development opportunities. Equipment and services  
23 shall not be used for sectarian purposes.

24 (c) In July 2009, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of  
25 Education shall allocate to each intermediate unit an amount  
26 equal to the number of nonpublic school students as of October 1  
27 of the preceding school year who are enrolled in nonpublic  
28 schools within the intermediate unit times thirty dollars (\$30).  
29 The Secretary of Education shall increase this figure on a  
30 proportionate basis whenever there is an increase in the basic

1 education funding of public school districts in the General  
2 Appropriation Act enacted for the then-current State fiscal  
3 year.

4       Section 2.   This act shall take effect immediately.