

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 10 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY SCARNATI, SOLOBAY, COSTA, GREENLEAF, ERICKSON, RAFFERTY, TOMLINSON, MCILHINNEY, MENSCH, BROWNE, CORMAN, BAKER, YAW, ROBBINS, VOGEL, VULAKOVICH, WAUGH, WHITE, GORDNER, KASUNIC AND YUDICHAK, FEBRUARY 11, 2013

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 11, 2013

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," in safe schools, further providing
 6 for Office for Safe Schools and providing for allocation of
 7 certain appropriated funds.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1302-A(d) of the act of March 10, 1949
 11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
 12 amended November 17, 2010 (P.L.996, No.104), is amended and the
 13 section is amended by adding subsections to read:

14 Section 1302-A. Office for Safe Schools.--* * *

15 (c.1) In addition to the powers and duties set forth under
 16 subsections (b) and (c), the office is authorized to make
 17 targeted grants to school entities and to municipalities to fund
 18 programs which address school violence by establishing or
 19 enhancing school security, including costs associated with the

1 training and compensation of school resource officers and school
2 police officers. Municipalities that receive grants under this
3 subsection shall, with the consent of the school, assign school
4 resource officers to carry out their official duties on the
5 premises of nonpublic schools.

6 (d) The office shall have the following duties as to
7 targeted grants:

8 (1) Targeted grants shall be allocated through a competitive
9 grant review process established by the office. School entities
10 must satisfy the requirements of this section and section 1303-A
11 to be eligible for grants. The application for a targeted grant
12 shall include:

13 (i) the purpose for which the targeted grant shall be
14 utilized;

15 (ii) information indicating need for the targeted grant,
16 including, but not limited to, school violence statistics;

17 (iii) an estimated budget;

18 (iv) methods for measuring outcomes; and

19 (v) any other criteria as the office may require.

20 (2) The office shall:

21 (i) Give priority in grant funding under subsection (c) to a
22 school entity designated as a persistently dangerous school as
23 defined in 22 Pa. Code § 403.2 (relating to definitions).

24 (ii) Give priority in grant funding under subsection (c) to
25 school entities with the greatest need to establish safety and
26 order.

27 (iii) To the greatest extent possible, ensure that grant
28 funding is geographically dispersed to school entities and
29 municipalities throughout this Commonwealth.

30 (3) The office shall provide all targeted grant agreements

1 to the Department of Education's comptroller for review and
2 approval prior to awarding the grant. The school entity or
3 municipality shall provide the office with full and complete
4 access to all records relating to the performance of the grant,
5 and shall submit, at such time and in such form as may be
6 prescribed, truthful and accurate information that the office
7 may require. The office shall conduct a thorough annual
8 evaluation of each program for which a grant under this section
9 is made. The office shall seek repayment of funds if it
10 determines that funds were not utilized for the original stated
11 purpose.

12 (e) The sum appropriated annually to the Department of
13 Education for the purpose of making targeted grants under this
14 section shall be allocated as follows:

15 (1) Twenty-five percent of the sum shall be allocated for
16 grants under subsection (c).

17 (2) Seventy-five percent of the sum shall be allocated for
18 grants under subsection (c.1).

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, or
20 immediately, whichever is later.