
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2704 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY C. QUINN, BARRAR, SANTORA, MENTZER AND YOUNGBLOOD,
OCTOBER 10, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, OCTOBER 10, 2018

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 Digital Protection
6 School Safety Account; and providing for duties of school
7 entities and the department.

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 XIII-E

14 DIGITAL PROTECTION SCHOOL SAFETY ACCOUNT

15 Section 1301-E. Definitions.

16 The following words and phrases when used in this article
17 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
18 context clearly indicates otherwise:

19 "Account." The Digital Protection School Safety Restricted
20 Revenue Account established under section 1302-E.

1 "Department." The Department of Education of the
2 Commonwealth.

3 "School entity." A school district, intermediate unit, area
4 vocational-technical school, charter school, cyber charter
5 school or regional charter school.

6 Section 1302-E. Establishment of account.

7 (a) Establishment.--The Digital Protection School Safety
8 Restricted Revenue Account is established as a restricted
9 revenue account within the General Fund. The following shall be
10 deposited into the account:

11 (1) Money collected by the Department of Revenue and
12 designated for school safety initiatives.

13 (2) Money allocated to the account by the General
14 Assembly.

15 (3) Voluntary contributions to the account.

16 (4) Interest generated from the money in the account.

17 (b) Appropriations.--Money in the account is appropriated to
18 the department on a continuing basis for distribution to school
19 entities for the purposes specified under section 1303-E.

20 (c) Administration.--

21 (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), the
22 department may coordinate with a State agency or
23 nongovernmental organization as necessary to distribute the
24 money in the account for the purposes specified under section
25 1303-E.

26 (2) The department may not enter into an agreement or
27 contract with a State agency or nongovernmental organization
28 for staffing functions regarding the distribution of money in
29 the account for the purposes specified under section 1303-E.

30 Section 1303-E. Duties of school entities.

1 A school entity shall use the money received under section
2 1302-E(b) to implement school safety and violence prevention
3 measures through the use of security-related equipment and
4 training, including any of the following:

5 (1) Student, staff and visitor identification systems.

6 (2) Metal detectors.

7 (3) Protective lighting.

8 (4) Surveillance equipment.

9 (5) Special emergency communications equipment.

10 (6) Electronic locksets.

11 (7) Deadbolts and theft control devices.

12 (8) Training in the use of the security-related
13 technology.

14 (9) Other one-time school safety and violence prevention
15 measures approved by the department.

16 Section 1304-E. Duties of department.

17 (a) Submission.--By July 30, 2019, and each July 30
18 thereafter, the department shall submit an annual report on the
19 status of the account to all of the following:

20 (1) The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations
21 Committee of the Senate.

22 (2) The chair and minority chair of the Education
23 Committee of the Senate.

24 (3) The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations
25 Committee of the House of Representatives.

26 (4) The chair and minority chair of the Education
27 Committee of the House of Representatives.

28 (b) Contents.--The report under subsection (a) shall include
29 information on all of the following:

30 (1) The total amount of money distributed from the

1 account in the prior year to each school entity.

2 (2) The use of the money distributed from the account
3 and the cost for each school safety and violence prevention
4 measure.

5 (3) The participation by a State agency or
6 nongovernmental organization as authorized under section
7 1302-E(c).

8 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.