THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1225 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY STURLA, HOHENSTEIN, MADDEN, RABB, HANBIDGE, HILL-EVANS, SANCHEZ, CERRATO, SCHLOSSBERG, CIRESI AND NEILSON, MAY 24, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 24, 2023

AN ACT

- Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An 1 act relating to the public school system, including certain 2 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial 3 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," in reimbursements by Commonwealth and 5 between school districts, further providing for payments on 6 account of pupil transportation. 8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: 10 Section 1. Section 2541(a) of the act of March 10, 1949 11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
- 12 amended to read:
- 13 Section 2541. Payments on Account of Pupil Transportation.--
- 14 (a) School districts shall be paid by the Commonwealth for
- 15 every school year on account of pupil transportation, including
- 16 <u>school crossing quard services</u>, which, and the means and
- 17 contracts providing for which, have been approved by the
- 18 Department of Education, in the cases hereinafter enumerated, an
- 19 amount to be determined by multiplying the cost of approved
- 20 reimbursable pupil transportation incurred by the district by

- 1 the district's aid ratio. In determining the formula for the
- 2 cost of approved reimbursable transportation, the Secretary of
- 3 Education may prescribe the methods of determining approved
- 4 mileages and the utilized passenger capacity of vehicles for
- 5 reimbursement purposes. For the school year 1998-1999 and each
- 6 school year thereafter, any school entity which contracts with
- 7 one or more school entities to provide pupil transportation
- 8 services shall be reimbursed in accordance with the formula
- 9 specified by the Department of Education for district-owned
- 10 vehicles. In addition thereto, the Commonwealth shall pay to
- 11 each district qualifying a payment for excessive cost of
- 12 transportation, said amount to be determined by subtracting from
- 13 the cost of the approved reimbursable transportation the sum of
- 14 the Commonwealth transportation payment immediately above, plus
- 15 the product of one-half mill (0.0005) times the latest market
- 16 value of the district as determined by the State Tax
- 17 Equalization Board, provided such amount is not negative. In
- 18 addition thereto, the Commonwealth shall pay to school districts
- 19 which own their own vehicles, an annual depreciation charge of
- 20 ten per centum (10%), to be calculated on the basis of the
- 21 approved cost at which the district acquired the vehicle for
- 22 which depreciation is claimed. With respect to vehicles
- 23 purchased prior to January 1, 1956, the number of depreciation
- 24 payments shall be limited to ten such payments. With respect to
- 25 vehicles purchased on or after January 1, 1956, the annual
- 26 depreciation charge shall not exceed seven hundred dollars
- 27 (\$700) for such vehicles. The number of annual depreciation
- 28 charges shall be limited, so that the total amount of such
- 29 payments shall not exceed the cost of the vehicle as approved by
- 30 the Department of Education at the time of the purchase. In no

- 1 case shall the Commonwealth pay, in depreciation charges, more
- 2 than ten thousand five hundred dollars (\$10,500) for any one
- 3 vehicle.
- 4 * * *
- 5 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.