

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2291 Session of  
1984

INTRODUCED BY MANDERINO, RYAN, RUDY, HERMAN, IRVIS,  
E. Z. TAYLOR, PIEVSKY, BURNS, HOFFEL, SEMMEL, LLOYD, TELEK,  
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PISTELLA, KUKOVICH, PRATT, WARGO, BELFANTI, STUBAN, GEORGE,  
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McCALL, PRESTON, MAYERNIK, STEWART, WOZNIAK, DeLUCA,  
BATTISTO, KOSINSKI, JOHNSON, HALUSKA, RAPPAPORT, OLIVER,  
SEVENTY, CLARK, DUFFY, MRKONIC, SWEET, GAMBLE AND RICHARDSON,  
JUNE 13, 1984

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, JUNE 13, 1984

AN ACT

1 Establishing a program within the Department of Commerce to  
2 provide funds to engineering degree-granting schools to  
3 assist in the acquisition of new engineering equipment or the  
4 upgrading of existing engineering equipment that is necessary  
5 to provide students with the courses required to obtain a  
6 degree in engineering; and making a nonlapsing appropriation.

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

9 Section 1. Short title.

10 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Engineering  
11 School Equipment Act.

12 Section 2. Definitions.

13 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
14 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

1 context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Board." The Board of the Ben Franklin Partnership Fund  
3 provided for in section 448(n) of the act of April 9, 1929  
4 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929.

5 "Department." The Department of Commerce.

6 "Engineering degree-granting school." An institution of  
7 higher education which offers curriculum in engineering or  
8 engineering technology which has been approved by the  
9 Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET) and is  
10 recognized as such by the State Registration Board for  
11 Professional Engineers.

12 "Equipment." Basic instructional equipment of an engineering  
13 nature used in the teaching of undergraduate or graduate  
14 engineering or engineering technology.

15 "Full-time equivalent engineering student." The enrollment  
16 in baccalaureate and graduate programs of engineering schools  
17 expressed in terms of full-time students as determined by the  
18 Department of Education.

19 Section 3. Engineering equipment acquisition and upgrade.

20 (a) Program.--There is established within the department a  
21 program to provide funds to engineering degree-granting schools.  
22 The program shall be administered by the board. Funds provided  
23 through this program shall be used exclusively for the  
24 acquisition of new engineering equipment and the upgrading of  
25 existing engineering equipment that is necessary to provide  
26 students with the courses required to obtain a baccalaureate or  
27 graduate engineering degree. The board shall:

28 (1) Promulgate such policies, develop such forms and  
29 institute such procedures as may be necessary to implement  
30 this act.

1           (2) Allocate to each engineering school the funds to  
2 which it is entitled under this act.

3           (3) Approve or disapprove any request for expenditures  
4 for the purchase or upgrading of equipment.

5           (4) Require such information and records from each  
6 engineering school as it deems necessary.

7           (5) Request the Department of Education to certify to  
8 the board the full-time equivalent enrollment of  
9 baccalaureate and graduate engineering students at each  
10 engineering school in the most recent year for which data are  
11 available.

12         (b) Allocation of funds.--The funds provided for in this act  
13 shall be allocated by the board to the engineering degree-  
14 granting schools based on the ratio of full-time equivalent  
15 students enrolled in baccalaureate and graduate engineering  
16 programs at each school to the total number of full-time  
17 equivalent undergraduate and graduate engineering students in  
18 the Commonwealth.

19         (c) Expenditure of funds.--All funds allocated to  
20 engineering degree granting schools shall be expended only for  
21 equipment. No engineering school shall expend allocated funds on  
22 equipment unless it also expends funds obtained from private  
23 sources on that equipment. At least \$3 of private funds shall be  
24 required for each \$1 of funds from this program. Funds allocated  
25 under this act shall not be used to supplant existing Federal or  
26 State funds for the acquisition or upgrading of engineering  
27 equipment.

28         (d) Distribution of unused funds.--Any allocated funds which  
29 have not been expended consistent with subsection (c) by June  
30 30, 1986, shall be available for redistribution by the board.

1 Section 4. Indicators of program impact.

2 The department shall report to the General Assembly by June  
3 30, 1987, on the impact of the program, including the types of  
4 equipment funded and the amount of private sector matching funds  
5 generated. All recipients of funds under this act shall provide  
6 information requested by the department for the purposes of this  
7 report.

8 Section 5. Appropriation.

9 The sum of \$3,000,000 is appropriated from the Pennsylvania  
10 Economic Recovery Fund to the Ben Franklin Partnership Fund for  
11 grants to engineering degree-granting schools for acquiring and  
12 upgrading engineering equipment and for administration of this  
13 program. This appropriation shall be a continuing appropriation  
14 and shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year.

15 Section 6. Expiration.

16 This act shall expire June 30, 1987, unless extended by  
17 statute.

18 Section 7. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect immediately.