

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 360 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY MENSCH, SCARNATI, COSTA, ARGALL, TEPLITZ, FONTANA, YUDICHAK, FERLO, WASHINGTON, FARNESE, VOGEL, BREWSTER, BROWNE, VULAKOVICH, RAFFERTY, ERICKSON, BAKER, SCHWANK, HUGHES AND BOSCOLA, JANUARY 31, 2013

SENATOR FOLMER, EDUCATION, AS AMENDED, FEBRUARY 12, 2013

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Pennsylvania Community College Affordability
2 Task Force within the Department of Education; and providing
3 for its powers and duties and for administrative support.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Pennsylvania Community College Affordability Task
7 Force.

8 (a) Establishment.--There is established within the
9 Department of Education a task force on the affordability of
10 community college education.

11 (b) Composition.--The task force shall be composed of the
12 following members:

13 (1) The Secretary of Education, who shall act as
14 chairperson of the task force.

15 (2) Six representatives of community colleges, including
16 four college presidents and two members of boards of trustees
17 of community colleges to be appointed by the Pennsylvania

1 Commission for Community Colleges.

2 (3) Two members of the Senate to be appointed by the
3 President pro tempore of the Senate.

4 (4) Two members of the House of Representatives to be
5 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

6 (5) One county commissioner that represents a county
7 that sponsors a local community college as appointed by the
8 Secretary of Education.

9 (6) One member of a school board that sponsors a local
10 community college as appointed by the Secretary of Education.

11 (7) Two representatives to be appointed by the Governor
12 who are members of the business community.

13 (8) Two students attending community colleges as
14 appointed by the Pennsylvania Commission for Community
15 Colleges.

16 (9) TWO FACULTY MEMBERS EMPLOYED BY COMMUNITY COLLEGES <--
17 AS APPOINTED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY
18 COLLEGES.

19 (c) Study.--The task force shall examine and make
20 recommendations regarding the viability and sustainability of
21 the current community college funding model, accessibility of
22 community college services across this Commonwealth, and the
23 long-term affordability and accessibility of a community college
24 education for residents of this Commonwealth. The task force
25 should also consider the various components of the community
26 college mission, including open access and workforce
27 development.

28 (d) Report to the General Assembly.--The task force shall
29 issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the
30 Governor, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker

1 of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the
2 Senate, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the
3 chair and minority chair of the Education Committee of the
4 Senate and the chair and minority chair of the Education
5 Committee of the House of Representatives. This report shall be
6 submitted within 180 days after the first meeting of the task
7 force.

8 (e) Meetings.--The task force shall meet as deemed necessary
9 by the chair in order to carry out the study and make
10 recommendations.

11 (f) Compensation.--Task force members shall receive no
12 compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for all
13 necessary travel and other reasonable expenses incurred in
14 connection with the performance of their duties as members.

15 (g) Duties of department.--The Department of Education shall
16 provide administrative support, office space and any other
17 technical assistance required by the task force to carry out its
18 duties under this section.

19 Section 2. Effective date.

20 This act shall take effect immediately.