

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 372 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY BURNS, BISHOP AND MAHONEY, FEBRUARY 9, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 9, 2015

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 pupils and attendance, further
 6 providing for transportation of school students.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1361 of the act of March 10, 1949
 10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
 11 amended May 11, 1979 (P.L.26, No.7), is amended to read:

12 Section 1361. When Provided.--(1) [The] Except as provided
 13 under paragraph (1.1), the board of school directors in any
 14 school district may, out of the funds of the district, provide
 15 for the free transportation of any resident pupil to and from
 16 the kindergarten, elementary school, or secondary school in
 17 which he is lawfully enrolled, provided that such school is not
 18 operated for profit and is located within the district
 19 boundaries or outside the district boundaries at a distance not
 20 exceeding ten miles by the nearest public highway, except that

1 such ten-mile limit shall not apply to area vocational technical
2 schools which regularly serve eligible district pupils or to
3 special schools and classes approved by the Department of
4 Education, and to and from any points within or without the
5 Commonwealth in order to provide field trips for any purpose
6 connected with the educational pursuits of the pupils. When
7 provision is made by a board of school directors for the
8 transportation of public school pupils to and from such schools
9 or to and from any points within or without the Commonwealth in
10 order to provide field trips as herein provided, the board of
11 school directors shall also make identical provision for the
12 free transportation of pupils who regularly attend nonpublic
13 kindergarten, elementary and high schools not operated for
14 profit to and from such schools or to and from any points within
15 or without the Commonwealth in order to provide field trips as
16 herein provided. Such transportation of pupils attending
17 nonpublic schools shall be provided during regular school hours
18 on such dates and periods that the nonpublic school not operated
19 for profit is in regular session, according to the school
20 calendar officially adopted by the directors of the same in
21 accordance with provisions of law. The board of school directors
22 shall provide such transportation whenever so required by any of
23 the provisions of this act or of any other act of Assembly.

24 (1.1) The board of school directors in any school district
25 shall, out of the funds of the district, provide for the free
26 transportation of any resident pupil to and from the
27 kindergarten, elementary school or secondary school in which the
28 resident pupil is lawfully enrolled if an individual required to
29 register under 42 Pa.C.S. Ch. 97 Subch. H (relating to
30 registration of sexual offenders) resides within the school

1 district of the kindergarten, elementary school or secondary
2 school.

3 (2) The board of school directors in any school district
4 may, if the board deems it to the best interest of the school
5 district, for the purposes of transporting pupils as required or
6 authorized by any of the provisions of this act or of any other
7 act of the Assembly, appropriate funds for urban common carrier
8 mass transportation purposes from current revenues to urban
9 common carrier mass transportation authorities to assist the
10 authorities to meet costs of operation, maintenance, capital
11 improvements, and debt service. Said contributions shall not be
12 subject to reimbursement by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

13 (3) The State Board of Education shall adopt regulations,
14 including qualifications of school bus drivers, to govern the
15 transportation of school pupils.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.