

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1145 Session of  
2015

INTRODUCED BY GERGELY, ROZZI, READSHAW, BIZZARRO, DAVIS,  
SAINATO, BISHOP, BURNS, SCHREIBER, KINSEY, YOUNGBLOOD,  
SCHWEYER, KOTIK, DERMODY, HANNA, FRANKEL, GOODMAN, MARKOSEK,  
WATERS, KIM, M. DALEY, SCHLOSSBERG, COHEN, V. BROWN, McNEILL,  
STURLA, FABRIZIO, DeLISSIO, KAVULICH, BROWNLEE, J. HARRIS,  
PASHINSKI, O'BRIEN, THOMAS, ACOSTA, W. KELLER, MURT,  
CALTAGIRONE, MAHONEY, SANKEY, HARHAI AND LONGIETTI,  
MAY 12, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 12, 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 vocational education, further  
6 providing for vocational education equipment grants; and, in  
7 reimbursements by Commonwealth and between school districts,  
8 providing for career and technical education innovation and  
9 career preparation.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 1855 of the act of March 10, 1949  
13 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
14 amended June 22, 2001 (P.L.530, No.35), is amended to read:

15 Section 1855. Vocational Education Equipment Grants.--(a)  
16 For the 2000-2001 fiscal year and the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the  
17 Department of Education shall establish a grant program to  
18 assist area vocational-technical schools, school districts

1 offering approved vocational-technical programs and the Thaddeus  
2 Stevens State College of Technology in purchasing equipment that  
3 meets industry standards for the purpose of providing training  
4 to students. Grants shall be limited to the purchase of  
5 equipment in the following program areas: automotive technology,  
6 auto body, diesel technology, precision machine technology,  
7 heating ventilation and air conditioning, printing, dental  
8 assisting, electronics, building trades and other program areas  
9 approved by the Secretary of Education. Grants shall be awarded  
10 by the Department of Education on a matching basis, two State  
11 dollars (\$2) for every local dollar (\$1), and shall be limited  
12 to funds appropriated for that purpose.

13 (b) For the 2015-2016 fiscal year, the Department of  
14 Education shall establish a competitive grant program to assist  
15 area vocational-technical schools and school districts offering  
16 approved vocational-technical programs in purchasing equipment  
17 that meets industry standards for the purpose of providing  
18 training to students. The Department of Education shall  
19 establish other criteria or factors as the Department of  
20 Education deems necessary, which shall include an in-kind  
21 contribution by employers, employer umbrella organizations or  
22 labor organizations, and shall give priority in awarding grants  
23 to recipients of funding under section 2508.6(b).

24 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

25 Section 2508.6. Career and Technical Education Innovation  
26 and Career Preparation.--(a) For the school year 2015-2016 and  
27 each school year thereafter, eight million dollars (\$8,000,000)  
28 shall be distributed by the Department of Education on a  
29 competitive basis to school districts and area vocational-  
30 technical schools to offer college and career counseling in

1 middle and high schools in order to develop pathways for  
2 students to pursue high-skill careers.

3 (b) For the school year 2015-2016 and each year thereafter,  
4 fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) shall be distributed by  
5 the Department of Education on a competitive basis to area  
6 vocational-technical schools and to school districts with eight  
7 (8) or more approved vocational-technical programs to support  
8 the establishment or enhancement of career-technical education  
9 programs that prepare students for success in the high-skill  
10 economy. Programs shall prepare students for high-demand or  
11 high-growth occupations based on labor market data that pay a  
12 family-sustaining wage and offer a career ladder for growth  
13 opportunities. Proposals shall:

14 (i) Reflect the endorsement and participation of each of the  
15 following:

16 (A) A local work force investment board.

17 (B) At least one local employer, employer umbrella  
18 organization or labor organization.

19 (C) At least one institution of higher education.

20 (ii) Provide work-based learning opportunities for  
21 participating students.

22 (iii) Provide the opportunity for students to earn college  
23 credit or industry-recognized certification.

24 (iv) Meet other requirements as established by the  
25 department.

26 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, or  
27 immediately, whichever is later.