

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1159 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY HICKERNELL, SAYLOR, CUTLER, OBERLANDER, BAKER, BLOOM, COHEN, DRISCOLL, FEE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GREINER, PHILLIPS-HILL, KAUFFMAN, M. K. KELLER, MENTZER, MILLARD, B. MILLER, MURT, PICKETT, RAPP, READSHAW, TOEPEL, TOPPER, TRUITT, WATSON, ZIMMERMAN, GILLEN, GABLER AND R. BROWN, MAY 11, 2015

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, MAY 2, 2016

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 reimbursements by Commonwealth and
6 between school districts, establishing the Emergency Basic
7 Education Subsidy Fund; and providing for basic education <--
8 ~~subsidy continuation funding~~ MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE <--
9 PURPOSE OF EMERGENCY BASIC EDUCATION FUNDING.

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

12 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known
13 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a
14 section to read:

15 Section 2599.6. Emergency Basic Education Subsidy Fund.--(a)
16 The Emergency Basic Education Subsidy Fund is established as a
17 separate fund in the State Treasury. The money of the fund is
18 appropriated on a continuing basis to carry out the provisions <--
19 of this section.

1 ~~(b) If legislation providing an appropriation for the A~~ <--  
2 ~~GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT PROVIDING FOR A basic education~~  
3 ~~subsidy APPROPRIATION is not enacted by August 15, the State~~ <--  
4 ~~Treasurer shall periodically transfer unappropriated,~~  
5 ~~unrestricted General Fund money, to the extent that the funds~~  
6 ~~are available, OF ANY FISCAL YEAR, FUNDS ARE HEREBY APPROPRIATED~~ <--  
7 ~~TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMERGENCY~~  
8 ~~BASIC EDUCATION FUNDING. TO THE EXTENT SUCH FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE,~~  
9 ~~THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER SUCH FUNDS to the Emergency~~  
10 ~~Basic Education Subsidy Fund IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT REQUIRED TO~~ <--  
11 ~~MAKE PAYMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (D) (2). The transfers shall be up~~  
12 ~~to the dollar amounts and at the times as necessary to meet the~~  
13 ~~requirements of section 2517(c).~~

14 (c) ~~If the Governor fails to certify revenue estimates under~~  
15 ~~section 618 of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known~~  
16 ~~as "The Administrative Code of 1929," for the current fiscal~~ <--  
17 ~~year the Secretary of Revenue PRIOR TO THE DATE ON WHICH A BASIC~~ <--  
18 ~~EDUCATION SUBSIDY PAYMENT IS DUE, THE STATE TREASURER shall~~  
19 ~~certify to the State Treasurer SECRETARY OF THE BUDGET each time~~ <--  
20 ~~a transfer is needed under subsection (a) that there is adequate~~  
21 ~~unappropriated, unrestricted General Fund money to make the~~ <--  
22 ~~transfer.~~

23 (d) (1) ~~The Secretary of Education shall draw a warrant on~~  
24 ~~the State Treasurer in favor of each district for the amount to~~  
25 ~~which the district is entitled, to meet each basic education~~  
26 ~~subsidy payment to the school districts pursuant to the payment~~ <--  
27 ~~schedule under section 2517(c) PARAGRAPH (2).~~ <--

28 (2) ~~Payments made to each school district shall be in the~~  
29 ~~same amount as provided in the previous year.~~

30 (e) ~~Transfers provided under this section shall only be in~~

1 effect during the time in which no GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT <--  
2 PROVIDING FOR A basic education subsidy appropriation has been  
3 enacted and shall be made only in the amount necessary to meet <--  
4 each basic education subsidy payment to the school districts  
5 pursuant to the payment schedule under section 2517(c). FOR THE <--  
6 CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

7 (f) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this act, the  
8 board of school directors of each school district may reopen the  
9 board's SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ANNUAL budget to reflect funding <--  
10 provided under this section.

11 Section 2. This act shall apply to fiscal years beginning  
12 after June 30, ~~2015~~ 2016. <--

13 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.