

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1944 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY STURLA, THOMAS, READSHAW, V. BROWN, SCHREIBER, GERGELY, KINSEY, SCHWEYER, DRISCOLL, ROZZI, LONGIETTI, YOUNGBLOOD, O'BRIEN, CALTAGIRONE, MILNE, COHEN, DeLUCA, GIBBONS, BRADFORD, M. DALEY, KORTZ, MURT, D. PARKER, D. COSTA, DAVIDSON AND BULLOCK, APRIL 4, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 4, 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," further providing for payments on
6 account of pupil transportation.

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

9 Section 1. Section 2541(a) of the act of March 10, 1949
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
11 amended December 21, 1998 (P.L.1194, No.154), is amended to
12 read:

13 Section 2541. Payments on Account of Pupil Transportation.--

14 (a) School districts shall be paid by the Commonwealth for
15 every school year on account of pupil transportation, including
16 school crossing guard services, which, and the means and
17 contracts providing for which, have been approved by the
18 Department of Education, in the cases hereinafter enumerated, an

1 amount to be determined by multiplying the cost of approved
2 reimbursable pupil transportation incurred by the district by
3 the district's aid ratio. In determining the formula for the
4 cost of approved reimbursable transportation, the Secretary of
5 Education may prescribe the methods of determining approved
6 mileages and the utilized passenger capacity of vehicles for
7 reimbursement purposes. For the school year 1998-1999 and each
8 school year thereafter, any school entity which contracts with
9 one or more school entities to provide pupil transportation
10 services shall be reimbursed in accordance with the formula
11 specified by the Department of Education for district-owned
12 vehicles. In addition thereto, the Commonwealth shall pay to
13 each district qualifying a payment for excessive cost of
14 transportation, said amount to be determined by subtracting from
15 the cost of the approved reimbursable transportation the sum of
16 the Commonwealth transportation payment immediately above, plus
17 the product of one-half mill (0.0005) times the latest market
18 value of the district as determined by the State Tax
19 Equalization Board, provided such amount is not negative. In
20 addition thereto, the Commonwealth shall pay to school districts
21 which own their own vehicles, an annual depreciation charge of
22 ten per centum (10%), to be calculated on the basis of the
23 approved cost at which the district acquired the vehicle for
24 which depreciation is claimed. With respect to vehicles
25 purchased prior to January 1, 1956, the number of depreciation
26 payments shall be limited to ten such payments. With respect to
27 vehicles purchased on or after January 1, 1956, the annual
28 depreciation charge shall not exceed seven hundred dollars
29 (\$700) for such vehicles. The number of annual depreciation
30 charges shall be limited, so that the total amount of such

1 payments shall not exceed the cost of the vehicle as approved by
2 the Department of Education at the time of the purchase. In no
3 case shall the Commonwealth pay, in depreciation charges, more
4 than ten thousand five hundred dollars (\$10,500) for any one
5 vehicle.

6 * * *

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