

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 525 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY AUMENT, GREENLEAF, MCGARRIGLE, BARTOLOTTA,
GORDNER, VULAKOVICH, FOLMER, MARTIN, WARD, HUTCHINSON,
RAFFERTY, MENSCH, YAW AND VOGEL, MARCH 20, 2017

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 20, 2017

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 payment of
8 emergency basic education funding.

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

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

14 Section 2599.8. Emergency Basic Education Subsidy Fund.--(a)
15 The Emergency Basic Education Subsidy Fund is established as a
16 separate fund in the State Treasury. The money of the fund is
17 appropriated to the Department of Education for the purpose of
18 emergency basic education funding as provided in this section.

19 (b) If a General Appropriation Act providing for a basic
20 education subsidy appropriation is not enacted by August 15 of

1 any fiscal year:

2 (1) To the extent such funds are available, the State
3 Treasurer shall transfer funds to the Emergency Basic Education
4 Subsidy Fund in the total amount required to make payments under
5 paragraph (2). The transfers shall be up to the dollar amounts
6 and at the times as necessary to meet the requirements of
7 section 2517(c).

8 (2) The Secretary of Education shall draw a warrant on the
9 State Treasurer in favor of each district for the amount to
10 which the district is entitled, to meet each basic education
11 subsidy payment to the school districts. The payments made to
12 each school district shall be in the same amount as provided in
13 the previous year.

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," prior to the date on which
17 a basic education subsidy payment is due, the State Treasurer
18 shall certify to the Secretary of the Budget each time a
19 transfer is needed under subsection (a) that there is adequate
20 General Fund money to make the transfer.

21 (d) Transfers provided under this section shall only be in
22 effect during the time in which no General Appropriation Act
23 providing for a basic education subsidy appropriation has been
24 enacted for the current fiscal year.

25 (e) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this act, the
26 board of school directors of a school district may reopen the
27 school district's annual budget to reflect funding provided
28 under this section.

29 Section 2. This act shall apply to fiscal years beginning
30 after June 30, 2017.

1 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.