
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 108 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY QUINN, HILL-EVANS AND NEILSON, JANUARY 28, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JANUARY 28, 2019

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," establishing the Digital Protection
6 School Safety Account; and providing for duties of school
7 entities and the department.

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

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

13 ARTICLE XIII-E

14 DIGITAL PROTECTION SCHOOL SAFETY ACCOUNT

15 Section 1301-E. Definitions.

16 The following words and phrases when used in this article
17 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
18 context clearly indicates otherwise:

19 "Account." The Digital Protection School Safety Restricted
20 Revenue Account established under section 1302-E.

21 "Department." The Department of Education of the

1 Commonwealth.

2 "School entity." A school district, intermediate unit, area
3 vocational-technical school, charter school, cyber charter
4 school or regional charter school.

5 Section 1302-E. Establishment of account.

6 (a) Establishment.--The Digital Protection School Safety
7 Restricted Revenue Account is established as a restricted
8 revenue account within the General Fund. The following shall be
9 deposited into the account:

10 (1) Money collected by the Department of Revenue and
11 designated for school safety initiatives.

12 (2) Money allocated to the account by the General
13 Assembly.

14 (3) Voluntary contributions to the account.

15 (4) Interest generated from the money in the account.

16 (b) Appropriations.--Money in the account is appropriated to
17 the department on a continuing basis for distribution to school
18 entities for the purposes specified under section 1303-E.

19 (c) Administration.--

20 (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), the
21 department may coordinate with a State agency or
22 nongovernmental organization as necessary to distribute the
23 money in the account for the purposes specified under section
24 1303-E.

25 (2) The department may not enter into an agreement or
26 contract with a State agency or nongovernmental organization
27 for staffing functions regarding the distribution of money in
28 the account for the purposes specified under section 1303-E.

29 Section 1303-E. Duties of school entities.

30 A school entity shall use the money received under section

1 1302-E(b) to implement school safety and violence prevention
2 measures through the use of security-related equipment and
3 training, including any of the following:

4 (1) Student, staff and visitor identification systems.

5 (2) Metal detectors.

6 (3) Protective lighting.

7 (4) Surveillance equipment.

8 (5) Special emergency communications equipment.

9 (6) Electronic locksets.

10 (7) Deadbolts and theft control devices.

11 (8) Training in the use of the security-related
12 technology.

13 (9) Other one-time school safety and violence prevention
14 measures approved by the department.

15 Section 1304-E. Duties of department.

16 (a) Submission.--By July 30, 2020, and each July 30
17 thereafter, the department shall submit an annual report on the
18 status of the account to all of the following:

19 (1) The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations
20 Committee of the Senate.

21 (2) The chair and minority chair of the Education
22 Committee of the Senate.

23 (3) The chair and minority chair of the Appropriations
24 Committee of the House of Representatives.

25 (4) The chair and minority chair of the Education
26 Committee of the House of Representatives.

27 (b) Contents.--The report under subsection (a) shall include
28 information on all of the following:

29 (1) The total amount of money distributed from the
30 account in the prior year to each school entity.

1 (2) The use of the money distributed from the account
2 and the cost for each school safety and violence prevention
3 measure.

4 (3) The participation by a State agency or
5 nongovernmental organization as authorized under section
6 1302-E(c).

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.