THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2247 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY GROVE, ORTITAY, PHILLIPS-HILL, SAYLOR AND MOUL, JULY 7, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, JULY 7, 2016

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 27, 2006 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1), entitled "An act providing for taxation by school 2 districts, for the State funds formula, for tax relief in 3 first class cities, for school district choice and voter participation, for other school district options and for a 5 task force on school cost reduction; making an appropriation; 6 prohibiting prior authorized taxation; providing for 7 installment payment of taxes; restricting the power of 8 certain school districts to levy, assess and collect taxes; 9 and making related repeals," in taxation by school districts, 10 further providing for adoption of preliminary budget 11 proposals, repealing provisions relating to local tax study 12 commission and further providing for public referendum 13 requirements for increasing certain taxes and for school 14 15 district tax notices; in State funds formula, providing for Public School Employees' Retirement System pension 16 contribution cost savings; and, in tax relief in cities of 17 the first class, further providing for tax relief. 18 19 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 20 hereby enacts as follows: 21 Section 1. Sections 311(d)(3) and 331 of the act of June 27, 22 2006 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1), known as the Taxpayer Relief Act, are repealed: 24 Section 311. Adoption of preliminary budget proposals. 25 26 (d) Resolution. --

1 * * *

[(3) A board of school directors that adopts a resolution under this section shall not be eligible to seek referendum exceptions under section 333(f), and section 333(e) shall not apply.]

6 * * *

- 7 [Section 331. Local tax study commission.
- 8 (a) Appointment. -- A board of school directors shall appoint
- 9 a local tax study commission prior to adopting a resolution
- 10 under section 331.2(b) or 332(b)(1). The local tax study
- 11 commission shall be appointed no later than 180 days prior to
- 12 the date on which the board of school directors is required to
- 13 adopt a resolution under section 331.2(b) or 332(b)(1).
- 14 (b) Membership. -- The local tax study commission shall
- 15 consist of five, seven or nine members who are resident
- 16 individuals or taxpayers of the school district and shall
- 17 reflect the socioeconomic, age and occupational diversity of the
- 18 school district to the extent possible, except that one member
- 19 of the local tax study commission may be a member of the board
- 20 of school directors and no member shall be an official or
- 21 employee or a relative thereof of the school district.
- 22 (c) Staff and expenses. -- The school district shall provide
- 23 necessary and reasonable support staff and shall reimburse the
- 24 members of the local tax study commission for necessary and
- 25 reasonable expenses in the discharge of their duties. Receipts
- 26 shall be required for all reimbursable expenses under this
- 27 subsection.
- 28 (d) Contents of study. -- The local tax study commission shall
- 29 study the existing taxes levied, assessed and collected by the
- 30 school district and the effect of any county or municipal taxes

- 1 imposed concurrently with the school district. The local tax
- 2 study commission shall determine how the tax policies of the
- 3 school district could be improved by the levy, assessment and
- 4 collection of the taxes authorized under section 321. The study
- 5 shall include consideration of all of the following:
- 6 (1) Historic and present rates of and revenue from taxes
- 7 currently levied, assessed and collected.
- 8 (2) The percentage of total revenues provided by taxes
- 9 currently levied, assessed and collected.
- 10 (3) The age, income, employment and property use
- 11 characteristics of the existing tax base.
- 12 (4) Projected revenues of taxes currently levied,
- assessed and collected, including taxes authorized and taxes
- 14 not levied under this chapter.
- 15 (e) Recommendation. -- Within 90 days of its appointment, the
- 16 local tax study commission shall make a nonbinding
- 17 recommendation to the board of school directors regarding the
- 18 imposition of the taxes authorized under section 321, commencing
- 19 in the subsequent fiscal year. Prior to making its
- 20 recommendation, the local tax study commission shall hold at
- 21 least one public hearing. The recommendation of the local tax
- 22 study commission shall be presented at a public meeting of the
- 23 board of school directors. The board of school directors shall
- 24 make such recommendation available to interested persons upon
- 25 request.
- 26 (f) Failure to issue a recommendation.--If the local tax
- 27 study commission fails to make a recommendation under subsection
- 28 (e), the board of school directors shall discharge the local tax
- 29 study commission.
- 30 (q) Adoption of recommendation. -- The board of school

- 1 directors shall accept or reject the recommendation of the local
- 2 tax study commission prior to adopting a resolution under
- 3 section 331.2(b) or section 332(b)(1).
- 4 (h) Materials.--All records of the local tax study
- 5 commission, including receipts, tapes, minutes of meetings and
- 6 written communications, for public inspection during the regular
- 7 business hours of the school district.
- 8 Section 2. Section 333 of the act, amended June 30, 2011
- 9 (P.L.148, No.25), is amended to read:
- 10 Section 333. Public referendum requirements for increasing
- 11 certain taxes.
- 12 (a) Applicability. -- The following provisions shall apply to
- 13 this section:
- 14 (1) For the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the tax increase
- proposed by any board of school directors shall not exceed
- the index unless an exception under <u>former</u> subsection (f) or
- 17 (n) is approved pursuant to former subsection (j), provided
- 18 that a board of school directors that did not elect to
- participate in the former act of July 5, 2004 (P.L.654,
- No.72), known as the Homeowner Tax Relief Act, shall have the
- 21 authority to petition the court of common pleas for an
- 22 additional tax rate increase if the tax rate increase allowed
- 23 by the index and any exception approved pursuant to <u>former</u>
- 24 subsection (j) is insufficient to balance the proposed
- budget. No later than July 15, 2006, the court shall grant
- the school district's request for the tax rate increase upon
- good cause shown if the school district proves by clear and
- 28 convincing evidence that the tax rate increase authorized
- 29 under this paragraph is insufficient to balance the proposed
- 30 budget. For a board of school directors subject to this

- 1 paragraph, the dates by which the board of school directors,
- 2 the department and the court of common pleas shall be
- 3 required to comply with section 311 and [subsections]
- 4 <u>subsection</u> (e) and <u>former subsection</u> (j) shall be 92 days
- 5 after the dates set forth in those provisions, except that
- 6 the date by which the board of school directors shall be
- 7 required to comply with all of the provisions of section
- 8 311(c) shall be ten days prior to the date by which the board
- 9 of school directors is required to adopt a preliminary
- 10 budget. Any exceptions granted to a board of school directors
- under section 333 of the former Homeowner Tax Relief Act
- 12 shall remain in full force and effect. Notwithstanding the
- provisions of this paragraph, a board of school directors
- that sought and was granted approval for one or more
- exceptions under section 333 of the former Homeowner Tax
- Relief Act may apply for any exception under <u>former</u>
- 17 subsections (f) (v) and (n), where the dollar amount of an
- 18 exception approved by the department under the former
- 19 Homeowner Tax Relief Act is less than the dollar amount of
- 20 the exception for which the school district is eligible under
- 21 this act.
- 22 (2) This section shall apply to each board of school
- 23 directors beginning with any proposed tax increase that takes
- effect in the 2007-2008 fiscal year and each fiscal year
- 25 thereafter.
- 26 (b) Prohibitions.--[Except as set forth in subsection (j),
- 27 unless] <u>Unless</u> there is compliance with subsection (c), a board
- 28 of school directors may not do any of the following:
- 29 (1) Increase the rate of a tax levied for the support of
- 30 the public schools by more than the index. For purposes of

- 1 compliance with this paragraph, a school district which is
- 2 situated in more than one county and which levies real estate
- 3 taxes under section 672.1 of the act of March 10, 1949
- 4 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
- 5 shall apply the index to each separate rate of real estate
- 6 taxes levied.
- 7 (2) Levy a tax for the support of the public schools
- 8 which was not levied in the 2005-2006 fiscal year.
- 9 (3) Raise the rate of the earned income and net profits
- 10 tax if already imposed under the authority of the Local Tax
- 11 Enabling Act except as otherwise provided for under section
- 12 331.2 or 332.
- 13 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter
- 14 to the contrary, the adoption of a referendum under section
- 331.2 or 332 confers on the board of school directors the
- authority to raise income taxes only to the extent contained
- in the language of the referendum, and any future increase of
- 18 an income tax to be used for the purpose of property tax
- 19 reduction shall be submitted to the electors of the school
- 20 district at a subsequent municipal election pursuant to the
- 21 provisions of section 332.
- 22 (c) Referendum.--
- 23 (1) In order to take an action prohibited under
- 24 subsection (b) (1), at the election immediately preceding the
- 25 start of the school district fiscal year in which the
- 26 proposed tax increase would take effect, a referendum stating
- 27 the specific rate or rates of the tax increase must be
- submitted to the electors of the school district, and a
- 29 majority of the electors voting on the question must approve
- 30 the increase.

- 1 (2) In order to take an action under subsection (b)(2),
 2 at the election immediately preceding the start of the school
 3 district fiscal year in which the proposed tax would take
 4 effect, a referendum stating the proposed tax and the rate at
 5 which it will be levied must be submitted to the electors of
 6 the school district, and a majority of the electors voting on
 7 the question must approve the tax.
 - (3) [Except as set forth in subsection (j), a] \underline{A} school district acting pursuant to this subsection shall submit the referendum question required under this section to the election officials of each county in which it is situate no later than 60 days prior to the election immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the tax increase would take effect.
 - (4) The election officials of each county shall, in consultation with the board of school directors, draft a nonlegal interpretative statement which shall accompany the referendum question in accordance with section 201.1 of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code. The nonlegal interpretative statement shall include information that references the items of expenditure for which the tax increase is sought and the consequence of the referendum being disapproved by the electorate.
 - (d) Failure to approve referendum. --
- (1) If a referendum question submitted under subsection (c)(1) is not approved, the board of school directors may approve an increase in the tax rate of not more than the index.
- 30 (2) If a referendum question submitted under subsection

- 1 (c) (2) is not approved, the board of school directors may not
- 2 levy the tax.
- 3 (e) Tax rate submissions.--A school district that has
- 4 adopted a preliminary budget proposal under section 311 that
- 5 includes an increase in the rate of any tax levied for the
- 6 support of public schools shall submit information on the
- 7 increase to the department on a uniform form prepared by the
- 8 department. The school district shall submit such information no
- 9 later than 85 days prior to the date of the election immediately
- 10 preceding the beginning of the school district's fiscal year.
- 11 The department shall compare the proposed percentage increase in
- 12 the rate of any tax with the index. Within ten days of the
- 13 receipt of the information required under this subsection but no
- 14 later than 75 days prior to the date of the election immediately
- 15 preceding the beginning of the school district's fiscal year,
- 16 the department shall inform the school district whether the
- 17 proposed tax rate increase is less than or equal to the index.
- 18 If the department determines that the proposed percentage
- 19 increase in the rate of the tax exceeds the index, the
- 20 department shall notify the school district that:
- 21 (1) the proposed tax increase must be reduced to an
- 22 amount less than or equal to the index; or
- 23 (2) the proposed tax increase must be approved by the
- 24 electorate under subsection (c)(1)[; or
- 25 (3) an exception must be sought under subsection (j)].
- 26 [(f) Referendum exceptions.--A school district may, without
- 27 seeking voter approval under subsection (c), increase the rate
- 28 of a tax levied for the support of the public schools by more
- 29 than the index if all of the following apply:
- 30 (1) The revenue raised by the allowable increase under

- the index is insufficient to balance the proposed budget due to one or more of the expenditures listed in paragraph (2).
 - (2) The revenue generated by increasing the rate of a tax by more than the index will be used to pay for any of the following:
 - (iii) Costs associated with the following:
 - (A) For a board of school directors that elected to participate in the former act of July 5, 2004 (P.L.654, No.72), known as the Homeowner Tax Relief Act, to pay interest and principal on any indebtedness incurred under 53 Pa.C.S. Pt. VII Subpt. B (relating to indebtedness and borrowing) prior to September 4, 2004. In no case may the school district incur additional debt under this clause except for the refinancing of existing debt, including the payment of costs and expenses related to such refinancing and the establishment of funding of appropriate debt service reserves. An increase under this clause shall be rescinded following the final payment of interest and principal.
 - (A.1) For a board of school directors that did not elect to participate in the former act of July 5, 2004 (P.L.654, No.72), known as the Homeowner Tax Relief Act, to pay interest and principal on any indebtedness incurred under 53 Pa.C.S. Pt. VII Subpt. B prior to the effective date of this act. In no case may the school district incur additional debt under this clause except for the refinancing of existing debt, including the payment of costs and expenses related to such refinancing and the establishment of

1	funding of appropriate debt service reserves. An
2	increase under this clause shall be rescinded
3	following the final payment of interest and
4	principal.
5	(B) To pay interest and principal on any
6	electoral debt incurred under 53 Pa.C.S. Pt. VII
7	Subpt. B. An increase under this clause shall be
8	rescinded following the final payment of interest and
9	principal.
10	(E) For purposes of this subparagraph, electoral
11	debt includes the refunding or refinancing of
12	electoral debt for which an exception is permitted
13	under clause (B) as long as the refunding or
14	refinancing incurs no additional debt other than for:
15	(I) costs and expenses related to the
16	refunding or refinancing; and
17	(II) funding of appropriate debt service
18	reserves.
19	(F) For purposes of this subparagraph,
20	indebtedness includes the refunding or refinancing of
21	indebtedness for which an exception is permitted
22	under clauses (A) and (A.1) as long as the refunding
23	or refinancing incurs no additional debt other than
24	for:
25	(I) costs and expenses related to the
26	refunding or refinancing; and
27	(II) funding of appropriate debt service
28	reserves.
29	(v) Costs incurred in providing special education
30	programs and services to students with disabilities if

- 1 the increase in expenditures on special education
- 2 programs and services, net of State special education
- 3 payments, was greater than the index. The dollar amount
- 4 of this exception shall be equal to the portion of the
- 5 increase that exceeds the index.
- 6 (g) Revenue derived from increase. -- Any revenue derived from
- 7 an increase in the rate of any tax allowed pursuant to
- 8 subsection (f)(2)(iii) shall not exceed the anticipated dollar
- 9 amount of the expenditure.
- 10 (h) Limitation on tax rate. -- The increase in the rate of any
- 11 tax allowed pursuant to an exception under subsection (f)(2)(v)
- 12 or (n) shall not exceed the rate increase required as determined
- 13 by the department pursuant to subsection (j).
- 14 (j) Department approval.--
- 15 (1) A school district that seeks to increase the rate of
- tax due to an expenditure under subsection (f)(2)(iii) or (v)
- or (n) shall obtain the approval of the department before
- imposing the tax increase. The department shall establish
- 19 procedures for administering the provisions of this
- subsection, which may include an administrative hearing on
- 21 the school district's submission.
- 22 (2) A school district proceeding under the provisions of
- this subsection shall publish in a newspaper of general
- circulation and on the district's publicly accessible
- Internet site, if one is maintained, notice of its intent to
- 26 seek department approval at least one week prior to
- submitting its request for approval to the department. If the
- department schedules a hearing on the school district's
- 29 request, the school district shall publish notice of the
- 30 hearing in a newspaper of general circulation and on the

- district's publicly accessible Internet site, if one is
 maintained, immediately upon receiving the information from
 the department. The notice shall include the date, time and
 place of the hearing.
 - (3) The department shall approve a school district's request under this subsection if a review of the data under paragraph (4) demonstrates that:
 - (i) the school district qualifies for one or more exceptions under subsection (f)(2)(iii) or (v) or (n); and
 - (ii) the sum of the dollar amounts of the exceptions for which the school district qualifies makes the school district eligible under subsection (f)(1).
 - (4) For the purpose of determining the eligibility of a school district for an exception under subsection (f)(2)(v), the department shall utilize data from the most recent school years for which annual financial report data required under section 2553 of the Public School Code of 1949 has been received. The department shall inform school districts of the school years determined under this subsection no later than 30 days prior to the date on which public inspection of proposed school budgets is required under section 311(c).
 - (5) (i) The department shall rule on the school district's request and shall inform the school district of its decision no later than 55 days prior to the date of the election immediately preceding the beginning of the school district's fiscal year.
 - (ii) If the department approves the request, the department shall determine the dollar amount of the expenditure for which the exception is sought and the tax

1 rate increase required to fund the exception.

(iii) If the department denies the request, the school district may submit a referendum question under subsection (c)(1). The question must be submitted to the election officials no later than 50 days prior to the date of the election immediately preceding the beginning of the school district's fiscal year.

- (6) Within 30 days of the deadline under paragraph (5)

 (i), the department shall submit a report to the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives enumerating the school districts which sought an exception under this subsection. The department shall also publish the report on its publicly accessible Internet site. The report shall include:
 - (i) The name of each school district making a request under this subsection.
 - (ii) The specific exceptions requested by each school district and the dollar amount of the expenditure for each exception.
- (iii) The department's ruling on the request for the exception.
 - (iv) If the exception was approved, the dollar amount of the expenditure for which the exception was sought and the tax rate increase required to fund the exception.
- 27 (v) A statistical summary of the information in subparagraphs (ii), (iii) and (iv).
- 29 (1) Index calculation.--No later than August 15, 2005, and 30 each August 15 thereafter, the department shall calculate the

- 1 index. The department shall publish the index by September 1,
- 2 2005, and each September 1 thereafter in the Pennsylvania
- 3 Bulletin.
- 4 (m) Election interference prohibited.--
- 5 (1) No public funds may be used to urge any elector to
- 6 vote for or against a referendum or be appropriated for
- 7 political or campaign purposes.
- 8 (2) This subsection shall not be construed to prohibit
- 9 the use of public funds for dissemination of factual
- information relative to a referendum appearing on an election
- 11 ballot.
- 12 (3) As used in this subsection, the term "public funds"
- means any funds appropriated by the General Assembly or by a
- 14 political subdivision.
- 15 [(n) Treatment of certain required payments.--
- 16 (1) The provisions of subsections (f) and (j) shall
- apply to a school district's share of payments to the Public
- 18 School Employees' Retirement System as required under 24
- 19 Pa.C.S. § 8327 (relating to payments by employers) if the
- increase in estimated payments between the current year and
- 21 the upcoming year, as determined by the department under this
- 22 section, is greater than the index.
- 23 (2) For purposes of this subsection, the following
- 24 apply:
- 25 (i) The school district's share of payments as
- required by 24 Pa.C.S. § 8327 for the current year shall
- 27 be determined by the department using:
- 28 (A) The lesser of the school district's total
- compensation for the current year or the school
- 30 district's total compensation for the 2011-2012

1	school year.
2	(B) The employer contribution rate under 24
3	Pa.C.S. § 8328 (relating to actuarial cost method)
4	for the current year.
5	(C) A State retirement subsidy calculation based
6	on the school district's total compensation under
7	clause (A) and the employer contribution rate under
8	clause (B).
9	(ii) The school district's share of payments as
10	required by 24 Pa.C.S. § 8327 for the upcoming year shall
11	be determined by the department using all of the
12	following:
13	(A) The lesser of the school district's:
14	(I) estimated total compensation for the
15	upcoming year; or
16	(II) total compensation for the 2011-2012
17	school year.
18	(B) The employer contribution rate under 24
19	Pa.C.S. § 8328 for the upcoming year.
20	(C) A State retirement subsidy calculation based
21	on the school district's total compensation under
22	clause (A) and the employer contribution rate under
23	clause (B).
24	(3) The dollar amount to which subsection (f) applies
25	shall be determined as follows:
26	(i) Multiply:
27	(A) the index; by
28	(B) the school district's share of payments for
29	the current year, as determined by the department
30	under this subsection.

1	(ii) Subtract:
2	(A) the product under subparagraph (i); from
3	(B) the amount of increase, as determined by the
4	department under this subsection, in the school
5	district's share of payments between:
6	(I) the current year; and
7	(II) the upcoming year.
8	(4) As used in this subsection, the term "compensation"
9	has the meaning ascribed in 24 Pa.C.S. § 8102 (relating to
10	definitions).]
11	(o) Rescission
12	(1) Any increase in a rate of a tax levied for support
13	of the public schools imposed prior to or during the 2011-
14	2012 school year under a referendum exception granted, prior
15	to the effective date of this subsection, under <u>former</u>
16	subsection (f)(2)(i), (ii) or (iii)(C) and (D) shall be
17	rescinded:
18	(i) immediately following fulfillment of the court
19	order or administrative order that was the basis for the
20	referendum exception;
21	(ii) immediately following the payment of costs to
22	resolve a condition which posed an immediate threat of
23	serious physical harm or injury to the students, staff or
24	residents of the school district that was the basis for
25	the referendum exception; or
26	(iii) following the final payment of interest and
27	principal related to the indebtedness.
28	(2) For the purposes of this subsection, the term "final
29	payment of interest and principal" does not include a school
30	district's payment of debt as a result of refunding or

- 1 refinancing the debt.
- 2 (p) Application of cost savings.--
- 3 (1) If a school district of the first class A, second
- 4 <u>class, third class or fourth class realizes cost savings from</u>
- 5 <u>a reduction in the school district's annual required</u>
- 6 contribution, the school district shall apply the amount of
- 7 <u>cost savings realized as follows:</u>
- 8 <u>(i) Except as provided under subparagraph (ii), the</u>
- 9 school district shall apply 80% of the cost savings to a
- reduction in the school district's millage rate. A
- 11 <u>reduction in the millage rate under this subparagraph</u>
- shall be the new base millage rate under section 336(b).
- The school district shall use the remaining 20% to cover
- the costs of general operations.
- 15 (ii) A school district that received from the
- 16 <u>Department of Education an exception under former</u>
- 17 subsection (f) shall apply 100% of the cost savings
- 18 realized to a reduction in the school district's millage
- 19 rate.
- 20 (2) As used in this subsection, the term "annual"
- 21 required contribution" shall mean periodic required
- 22 contributions expressed as a dollar amount or a percentage of
- 23 covered plan compensation consisting of both the total
- 24 employer cost and the amortization payment.
- 25 Section 3. Section 343 of the act is amended to read:
- 26 Section 343. School district tax notices.
- 27 (a) Tax notice. -- A school district that implements homestead
- 28 and farmstead exclusions or millage rate reductions shall
- 29 itemize the homestead and farmstead exclusion or millage rate
- 30 reduction on tax bills sent to [homestead and farmstead owners,]

- 1 property owners indicating the [original amount of] tax
- 2 liability of the previous tax year, the amount of the exclusion
- 3 and [the net amount of tax due after the exclusion is applied.],_
- 4 <u>if there is no millage rate reduction, the amount property</u>
- 5 owners could save if the school district collected a 1% increase
- 6 in the earned income and net profit tax and used the revenue in
- 7 <u>accordance with section 334(a).</u> The tax bill shall be easily
- 8 understandable and include a notice pursuant to subsection (b).
- 9 (b) Notice of property tax relief.--A school district that
- 10 implements homestead and farmstead exclusions or millage rate
- 11 <u>reductions</u> shall include with the [homestead or farmstead]
- 12 property owner's tax bill a notice that the tax bill includes a
- 13 homestead or farmstead exclusion or millage rate reduction. The
- 14 notice shall at a minimum take the following form:
- NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX RELIEF
- 16 Your enclosed tax bill includes a tax reduction for your
- 17 [homestead and/or farmstead] property. As [an eligible
- homestead and/or farmstead] a property owner, you have
- 19 received tax relief through a homestead and/or farmstead
- 20 exclusion or millage rate reduction which has been provided
- 21 under the Pennsylvania Taxpayer Relief Act, a law passed by
- 22 the Pennsylvania General Assembly designed to reduce your
- 23 property taxes. If (insert name of school district) increases
- its earned income or net profits tax by 1%, your property
- 25 taxes would be reduced by (insert amount of reduction) as an
- 26 individual property owner.
- 27 Section 4. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
- 28 <u>Section 506. Public School Employees' Retirement System pension</u>
- 29 contribution cost savings.
- 30 (a) Transfer. -- Within 30 days after the enactment of a

- 1 general appropriations bill, the secretary shall transfer from
- 2 the General Fund 80% of the revenue from any cost savings
- 3 realized from a reduction in the Commonwealth's annual Public
- 4 <u>School Employees' Retirement System contribution into the fund.</u>
- 5 (b) Calculation. -- The secretary shall determine the cost
- 6 savings under this section by calculating the amount of the
- 7 <u>Commonwealth's annual Public School Employees' Retirement</u>
- 8 System's contribution in the current fiscal year subtracted from
- 9 the Commonwealth's annual Public School Employees' Retirement
- 10 System contribution in the prior fiscal year.
- 11 (c) Certification. -- The secretary shall certify the amount
- 12 of cost savings under this section by April 15 of each year for
- 13 transfer into the fund in the next fiscal year.
- 14 Section 5. Section 703(c)(3)(i) of the act is repealed:
- 15 Section 703. Tax relief.
- 16 * * *
- 17 (c) Exceptions. -- The wage and net profits tax rates may only
- 18 be raised above the rates specified in subsection (b)(2) if all
- 19 of the following apply:
- 20 * * *
- 21 (3) The increase is necessary to respond to any of the
- 22 following:
- [(i) A fiscal threat or condition, as certified by
- the city's director of finance, that occurs to the city
- as set forth in section 333(f) or an equivalent fiscal
- 26 threat that affects the citizens of the city. It shall be
- the responsibility of the city's director of finance with
- the approval of the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental
- 29 Cooperation Authority to ensure that any additional tax
- 30 revenue raised is equal to the amount expended to respond

to the fiscal threat or condition. If the amount of 1 2 revenue raised through rate adjustment exceeds the amount necessary to respond, over the course of the city's 3 approved financial plan to the fiscal threat, the excess 4 amount shall be used for wage tax and net profits tax 5 reduction in the immediately succeeding approved 6 financial plan but only if the tax rate reduction, 7 expressed as the difference between the two tax rates, 8 9 would exceed .0002.] * * * 10

11 Section 6. This act shall take effect in 60 days.