THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 620

Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY SIMMONS, CAUSER, BAKER, BISHOP, BARRAR, CALTAGIRONE, BROWNLEE, STEPHENS, GRELL, KORTZ, KAUFFMAN, DAVIS, WATSON, MACKENZIE, DeLUCA, MURT, ROZZI, GINGRICH, READSHAW, GILLEN, EVANKOVICH, HARHART, TOOHIL, V. BROWN, R. BROWN, HELM AND DAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 24, 2015

AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain 2 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial 3 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the 4 laws relating thereto," in transportation of pupils, further 5 providing for website link for when transportation provided. 6 7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: 8 9 Section 1. Section 1361 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, 10 11 amended May 11, 1979 (P.L.26, No.7), is amended to read: 12 Section 1361. When Provided. -- (1) The board of school directors in any school district may, out of the funds of the 13 14 district, provide for the free transportation of any resident 15 pupil to and from the kindergarten, elementary school, or secondary school in which he is lawfully enrolled, provided that 16

such school is not operated for profit and is located within the

district boundaries or outside the district boundaries at a

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- 1 distance not exceeding ten miles by the nearest public highway,
- 2 except that such ten-mile limit shall not apply to area
- 3 vocational technical schools which regularly serve eligible
- 4 district pupils or to special schools and classes approved by
- 5 the Department of Education, and to and from any points within
- 6 or without the Commonwealth in order to provide field trips for
- 7 any purpose connected with the educational pursuits of the
- 8 pupils. When provision is made by a board of school directors
- 9 for the transportation of public school pupils to and from such
- 10 schools or to and from any points within or without the
- 11 Commonwealth in order to provide field trips as herein provided,
- 12 the board of school directors shall also make identical
- 13 provision for the free transportation of pupils who regularly
- 14 attend nonpublic kindergarten, elementary and high schools not
- 15 operated for profit to and from such schools or to and from any
- 16 points within or without the Commonwealth in order to provide
- 17 field trips as herein provided. Such transportation of pupils
- 18 attending nonpublic schools shall be provided during regular
- 19 school hours on such dates and periods that the nonpublic school
- 20 not operated for profit is in regular session, according to the
- 21 school calendar officially adopted by the directors of the same
- 22 in accordance with provisions of law. The board of school
- 23 directors shall provide such transportation whenever so required
- 24 by any of the provisions of this act or of any other act of
- 25 Assembly.
- 26 (2) The board of school directors in any school district
- 27 may, if the board deems it to the best interest of the school
- 28 district, for the purposes of transporting pupils as required or
- 29 authorized by any of the provisions of this act or of any other
- 30 act of the Assembly, appropriate funds for urban common carrier

- 1 mass transportation purposes from current revenues to urban
- 2 common carrier mass transportation authorities to assist the
- 3 authorities to meet costs of operation, maintenance, capital
- 4 improvements, and debt service. Said contributions shall not be
- 5 subject to reimbursement by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 6 (3) <u>In any school district where transportation is provided</u>,
- 7 the school district shall provide a link to the Megan's Law
- 8 website under 42 Pa.C.S. § 9799.28 (relating to public Internet
- 9 <u>website</u>) on any communication related to transportation
- 10 distributed to students, parents or the public.
- 11 (4) The State Board of Education shall adopt regulations,
- 12 including qualifications of school bus drivers, to govern the
- 13 transportation of school pupils.
- 14 (5) A school entity shall, on its publicly accessible
- 15 Internet website, regardless of whether the school entity
- 16 transports students, provide a link to the Megan's Law website
- 17 under 42 Pa.C.S. § 9799.28. The link shall be prominently
- 18 displayed on the school entity's home page. For purposes of this
- 19 clause, "school entity" shall include a school district, charter
- 20 <u>school</u>, <u>cyber charter school</u>, <u>intermediate unit or area</u>
- 21 vocational-technical school.
- 22 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.