

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1213 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY LANGERHOLC, MCGARRIGLE, RESCHENTHALER, MENSCH, REGAN, SABATINA, KILLION, VULAKOVICH, RAFFERTY, BREWSTER, SCARNATI, YUDICHAK, WARD, STEFANO, HUTCHINSON, COSTA, AUMENT AND VOGEL, JUNE 22, 2018

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JUNE 22, 2018

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 safe schools, establishing the
 6 School Student Mental Health Assistance Augmentation Account
 7 and providing for deposit of court costs and filing fees into
 8 the account; and making an inconsistent repeal.

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 1302.2-A. School Student Mental Health Assistance
 15 Augmentation Account.--(a) The School Student Mental Health
 16 Assistance Augmentation Account is established within the
 17 General Fund as a restricted receipt account.

18 (b) Notwithstanding 42 Pa.C.S. § 3733(a.1)(2)(iii) (relating
 19 to deposits into account), for the fiscal year 2018-2019 and
 20 each fiscal year thereafter, eight dollars (\$8) of each

1 additional fee imposed under 42 Pa.C.S. § 3733(a.1)(1) shall be
2 deposited into the account, and two dollars (\$2) of each
3 additional fee shall be deposited into the Access to Justice
4 Account.

5 (c) Money deposited into the account is appropriated on a
6 continuing basis to the Department of Education for distribution
7 under subsection (d).

8 (d) All money deposited into the account shall be used for
9 the purpose of providing grants to school entities to hire and
10 retain mental health professionals. The Department of Education
11 shall, upon written application and subsequent approval, grant
12 money from the account to a school entity. A school entity shall
13 use the grant award to hire and retain one of the following
14 mental health professionals:

15 (1) A certified guidance counselor.

16 (2) A school psychologist.

17 (3) A licensed social worker.

18 (4) A licensed clinical social worker.

19 (5) A licensed professional counselor.

20 (6) A marriage and family therapist.

21 (e) The Department of Education shall establish grant
22 application review procedures and priorities in grant funding.

23 (f) Grant money allocated through the account shall be used
24 to supplement and not supplant existing school entity spending
25 on mental health professionals.

26 (g) As used in this section, "account" shall mean the School
27 Student Mental Health Assistance Augmentation Account.

28 Section 2. The provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 3733(a.1)(2)(iii)
29 are repealed insofar as they are inconsistent with the addition
30 of section 1302.2-A of the act.

1 Section 3. This act shall take effect August 1, 2018, or
2 immediately, whichever is later.