
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 360 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY MENSCH, SCARNATI, COSTA, ARGALL, TEPLITZ, FONTANA,
YUDICHAK, FERLO, WASHINGTON, FARNESE, VOGEL, BREWSTER,
BROWNE, VULAKOVICH, RAFFERTY, ERICKSON, BAKER, SCHWANK,
HUGHES AND BOSCOLA, JANUARY 31, 2013

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JANUARY 31, 2013

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Pennsylvania Community College Affordability
2 Task Force within the Department of Education; and providing
3 for its powers and duties and for administrative support.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Pennsylvania Community College Affordability Task
7 Force.

8 (a) Establishment.--There is established within the
9 Department of Education a task force on the affordability of
10 community college education.

11 (b) Composition.--The task force shall be composed of the
12 following members:

13 (1) The Secretary of Education, who shall act as
14 chairperson of the task force.

15 (2) Six representatives of community colleges, including
16 four college presidents and two members of boards of trustees
17 of community colleges to be appointed by the Pennsylvania

1 Commission for Community Colleges.

2 (3) Two members of the Senate to be appointed by the
3 President pro tempore of the Senate.

4 (4) Two members of the House of Representatives to be
5 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

6 (5) One county commissioner that represents a county
7 that sponsors a local community college as appointed by the
8 Secretary of Education.

9 (6) One member of a school board that sponsors a local
10 community college as appointed by the Secretary of Education.

11 (7) Two representatives to be appointed by the Governor
12 who are members of the business community.

13 (8) Two students attending community colleges as
14 appointed by the Pennsylvania Commission for Community
15 Colleges.

16 (c) Study.--The task force shall examine and make
17 recommendations regarding the viability and sustainability of
18 the current community college funding model, accessibility of
19 community college services across this Commonwealth, and the
20 long-term affordability and accessibility of a community college
21 education for residents of this Commonwealth. The task force
22 should also consider the various components of the community
23 college mission, including open access and workforce
24 development.

25 (d) Report to the General Assembly.--The task force shall
26 issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the
27 Governor, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker
28 of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the
29 Senate, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the
30 chair and minority chair of the Education Committee of the

1 Senate and the chair and minority chair of the Education
2 Committee of the House of Representatives. This report shall be
3 submitted within 180 days after the first meeting of the task
4 force.

5 (e) Meetings.--The task force shall meet as deemed necessary
6 by the chair in order to carry out the study and make
7 recommendations.

8 (f) Compensation.--Task force members shall receive no
9 compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for all
10 necessary travel and other reasonable expenses incurred in
11 connection with the performance of their duties as members.

12 (g) Duties of department.--The Department of Education shall
13 provide administrative support, office space and any other
14 technical assistance required by the task force to carry out its
15 duties under this section.

16 Section 2. Effective date.

17 This act shall take effect immediately.