

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1144 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY E. NELSON, GROVE, STRUZZI, DELOZIER, LAWRENCE, ADAMS, SMITH, BERNSTINE, HAMM, MARCELL, STAATS, KAUFFMAN AND ECKER, MAY 10, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, MAY 10, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled  
 2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the  
 3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the  
 4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative  
 5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,  
 6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or  
 7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or  
 8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative  
 9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and  
 10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative  
 11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,  
 12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the  
 13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive  
 14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of  
 15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and  
 16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,  
 17 and commissions; providing for judicial administration; and  
 18 prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation  
 19 of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of  
 20 certain departments, boards and commissions shall be  
 21 determined," in Commonwealth budget procedures, providing for  
 22 definitions and further providing for budget implementation  
 23 data, for electronic access of information and for lapsing of  
 24 funds.

25 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 26 hereby enacts as follows:

27 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known  
 28 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a

1 section to read:

2 Section 601.1. Definitions.--The following words and phrases  
3 when used in this article shall have the meanings given to them  
4 in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

5 "Encumbrance." An obligation or commitment in the form of a  
6 purchase order, field purchase order, contract, grant agreement  
7 or other authorizing document related to an unperformed contract  
8 for goods and services that is chargeable to an appropriation  
9 and for which a part of the appropriation is reserved.

10 "Grants and subsidies." Payments made by the Commonwealth to  
11 political subdivisions, individuals, institutions or  
12 organizations for which no direct services are rendered to the  
13 Commonwealth. The term includes awards, bounties and  
14 indemnities.

15 Section 2. Section 620 of the act is amended by adding a  
16 subsection to read:

17 Section 620. Budget Implementation Data.--\* \* \*

18 (a.1) For each special fund used for grants and subsidies,  
19 each department shall prepare a report within twenty (20) days  
20 of the end of each calendar quarter indicating the amount, the  
21 name of each grantee or subsidy recipient and the date of  
22 expected expenditures for each grant and subsidy which has been  
23 awarded or otherwise allocated, but is not reflected in the  
24 Integrated Central System under section 620.1 as an encumbrance  
25 as of the end of the calendar quarter. The report shall be  
26 issued to the chairperson and minority chairperson of the  
27 Appropriations Committee of the Senate and the chairperson and  
28 minority chairperson of the Appropriations Committee of the  
29 House of Representatives, the Independent Fiscal Office and  
30 members of the General Assembly. A copy of the report shall be

1 sent to the Office of Administration. The Office of  
2 Administration shall make the report available on the public  
3 Internet website called PennWATCH established under the act of  
4 June 30, 2011 (P.L.81, No.18), known as the Pennsylvania Web  
5 Accountability and Transparency (PennWATCH) Act.

6 \* \* \*

7 Section 3. Section 620.1 of the act is amended to read:

8 Section 620.1. Electronic Access of Information.--Except for  
9 confidential information, the Majority and Minority Chairmen of  
10 the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and House of  
11 Representatives shall have access to all information available  
12 on inquiry-only screens through the Integrated Central System or  
13 a successor system.

14 Section 4. The definitions of "encumbrance" and "grants and  
15 subsidies" in section 621(a) of the act are amended to read:

16 Section 621. Lapsing of Funds.--(a) As used in this  
17 section:

18 \* \* \*

19 ["Encumbrance." Obligation or commitment in the form of  
20 purchase orders, field purchase orders, contracts, grant  
21 agreements or other authorizing documents related to unperformed  
22 contracts for goods and services which are chargeable to an  
23 appropriation and for which a part of the appropriation is  
24 reserved.]

25 \* \* \*

26 ["Grants and subsidies." Includes all payments made by the  
27 State to political subdivisions, individuals, institutions and  
28 organizations for which no direct services are rendered to the  
29 State. Also included are: awards, bounties and indemnities.]

30 \* \* \*

1 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.