

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2421 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY CEPHAS, APRIL 20, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 20, 2020

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 school finances, establishing the
 6 Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools Grant Program.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known
 10 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a
 11 section to read:

12 Section 618. Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools Grant
 13 Program.--(a) The Bridging the Digital Divide in Schools Grant
 14 Program is established in the department for the purpose of
 15 allocating grant money to school entities to provide or expand
 16 access to technology and technological equipment for students
 17 who do not have the means to purchase technology and
 18 technological equipment or who do not have access to the
 19 Internet at home.

20 (b) A grant received by a school entity shall be used for

1 the purchase of, or for reimbursement of the school entity's
2 purchase of, technology and technological equipment that can be
3 used by the school entity's students in school or at home.

4 (c) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
5 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless
6 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

7 "School entity." A school district, joint school district,
8 intermediate unit, charter school or area career and technical
9 school.

10 "Technology and technological equipment." The term includes,
11 but is not limited to, laptops, tablets, hot spot access devices
12 and other electronic mobile devices.

13 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.