
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2563 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, V. BROWN, NEILSON, MURT AND BARRAR,
JULY 17, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JULY 17, 2018

AN ACT

1 Authorizing a school district to establish a program to permit
2 retired law enforcement officers to volunteer to provide
3 security services within the school district in exchange for
4 a real property tax credit.

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

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Real Property
9 Tax Credit for Security Services Act.

10 Section 2. Declaration of purpose.

11 The General Assembly finds and declares that the purpose of
12 this act is to authorize a school district to establish a
13 program to permit retired law enforcement officers who reside in
14 the school district to volunteer to provide security services
15 within the school district in exchange for a real property tax
16 credit.

17 Section 3. Definitions.

18 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
19 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

1 context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Law enforcement officer." A member of the Pennsylvania
3 State Police or an individual employed as a police officer who
4 is required to be trained under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subch. D
5 (relating to municipal police education and training).

6 "Program." A volunteer security services program authorized
7 under section 4.

8 "School district." The term includes school districts of all
9 classes.

10 "Security services." Measures that enhance the safety and
11 security of a school district.

12 Section 4. Authorization of volunteer security services
13 program.

14 A school district may establish a program to permit retired
15 law enforcement officers who reside in the school district to
16 volunteer to provide security services in the school district in
17 exchange for a real property tax credit.

18 Section 5. Eligibility for program.

19 (a) Firearms.--In order to be eligible to participate in a
20 program, a retired law enforcement officer must have a license
21 to carry a concealed firearm and maintain a current and valid
22 certification in the use and handling of a firearm issued under
23 any of the following:

24 (1) The provisions of 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subch. D
25 (relating to municipal police education and training).

26 (2) The act of October 10, 1974 (P.L.705, No.235), known
27 as the Lethal Weapons Training Act.

28 (3) The act of February 9, 1984 (P.L.3, No.2), known as
29 the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Act.

30 (4) The act of December 13, 2005 (P.L.432, No.79), known

1 as the Retired Law Enforcement Identification Act.

2 (5) Any other firearms program that has been approved by
3 the Commissioner of Pennsylvania State Police to provide
4 basic training in the use and handling of firearms.

5 (b) Background check.--A retired law enforcement officer may
6 not participate in a program if the retired law enforcement
7 officer fails to pass a criminal background check conducted
8 under section 7.

9 Section 6. Eligibility for real property tax credit.

10 In order to be eligible for a real property tax credit under
11 the program, a retired law enforcement officer must volunteer to
12 provide security services within the school district for a
13 minimum of 40 hours per week throughout the duration of an
14 academic year.

15 Section 7. Duties of school districts.

16 (a) Duties.--A school district opting to establish a program
17 shall have the following duties:

18 (1) Conduct a criminal background check for a retired
19 law enforcement officer seeking to participate in the program
20 before allowing the law enforcement officer to participate in
21 the program.

22 (2) Ensure that a retired law enforcement officer
23 seeking to participate or actively participating in the
24 program meets the criteria specified under sections 5 and 6.

25 (b) Construction.--Nothing in this section shall be
26 construed to prohibit a school district from establishing
27 additional guidelines regarding a program, including the
28 acceptance criteria to participate in the program.

29 Section 8. Tax liability.

30 (a) Personal income tax.--A real property tax credit

1 received by a retired law enforcement officer participating in a
2 program shall not be subject to the tax imposed under Article
3 III of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax
4 Reform Code of 1971.

5 (b) Value of tax credit.--The rate of a real property tax
6 credit received by a retired law enforcement officer
7 participating in a program shall be established by the school
8 district and may not exceed the total amount of real property
9 taxes owed.

10 Section 9. Existing employment positions.

11 A school district may not replace or supplant existing
12 employment positions in a school district for the purpose of
13 establishing and implementing a program.

14 Section 10. Funding sources.

15 A school district may seek private and public funding sources
16 to establish and implement a program.

17 Section 11. Effective date.

18 This act shall take effect in 60 days.