

Fiscal Code Provisions Impacting Education

Permanent Sections of the Fiscal Code

- **Section 1722-E** – This language is part of the permanent sections of the Fiscal Code. It provides the Western PA School for the Deaf (WPSD) an additional appropriation of \$500,000 annually for the next two fiscal years (FY 2010/2011 and FY 2011/12).

Temporary Sections of the Fiscal Code

- **Section 1722-J(1)** – Clarification that funds received under the federal stimulus provisions (ARRA) are to be spent in accordance with ARRA.
- **Section 1722-J(2)** – Provision allowing school districts to re-open their budgets to reflect final state and federal appropriations. This language is commonly provided by the Commonwealth so districts can adjust their budgets accordingly once the State Budget is passed into law.
- **Section 1722-J(3)** – Annual payments to institutions of higher education for costs related to defraying the expenses of hearing and sight impaired students not to exceed \$500. This is historically provided to higher-ed institutions upon passage of the State Budget.
- **Section 1722-J(4)** – Drives out community college funding in accordance with formula in School Code. Pro rata distribution language was included in case funding is not identical to last fiscal year.
- **Section 1722-J(5)** – School districts to receive the same special education funding as FY 2008-2009 in accordance with the School Code.
- **Section 1722-J(6)** – Educational Assistance Program funds are driven out the same as 2008-2009 unless insufficient funds are appropriated, in which case, pro rata distribution language is provided.
- **Section 1722-J(7)** – Pennsylvania Accountability Grant funds are driven out the same as 2008-2009 unless insufficient funds appropriated, in which case, pro rata distribution language is provided.
- **Section 1722-J(8) and Section 1722-J(9)** – Transition language for professional and temporary professional employees of schools formerly operated by the Commonwealth (Scranton School for the Deaf and Scotland School). Language includes retention of seniority rights and requirement that school districts, IU's and AVTS must first extend interview/offer to displaced employees. This language is effective for all school districts that have their district's administration building within a 17-mile radius of either the former Scranton School for the Deaf or the former Scotland School. Included in the Scranton School language would include Hazleton School District in the pool even though it is outside the 17 mile radius. Also, included in the pool for just Scotland School employees is the Harrisburg School District and any district outside the 17-mile range, but shares a contiguous border with the home school district that Scotland formerly operated within (Thus, Gettysburg SD and Tuscarora SD are included in the pool). All of the provisions of this section are good for three years. This language is supported by the teachers' union.
- **Section 1722-J(10)** – Provides for Special Education transition funding for Scranton School/Western PA School for the Deaf for this fiscal year.

- **Section 1722-J(11)** – Provides for the completion of a report by PDE on costs related to the education of adjudicated youth placed in facilities/programs by the courts.
- **Section 1722-J(12)** – The establishment of Workers' Compensation Safety Committees will be required in each school district.
- **Section 1722-J(13)** – Provisions relating to the calculation of social security payments by the Commonwealth for wages paid out of ARRA State Fiscal Stabilization Fund. These payments will be treated as state dollars - not federal.
- **Section 1722-J(14)** – Provides library funding distribution in accordance with the previous formula. The formula can be run regardless of the final state appropriation provided.
- **Section 1722-J(15)** – Provides distribution of unexpended and unencumbered Empowerment funds (up to \$4.5 million) for Chester-Upland School District and Duquesne School District.
- **Section 1722-J(16)** – Includes provisions relating to the instruction of homebound children. Technical language providing payments to be made to the extent that funds are appropriated.
- **Section 1722-J(17)** – Basic Education Funding distribution. Funds driven out in accordance with the funding formula in the School Code.
- **Section 1722-J(18)** – Community college must comply with Section 1737-J dealing with articulation agreements.
- **Section 1737.1-J** – Provides for the expansion of Articulation Agreements for State-Related Universities and other sectors of higher-ed.