

Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title:	Calling on the Philadelphia City Council Committee on Education to Hold Hearings Concerning the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Approach to Education Funding.				
Sponsors:	Councilmember Blackwell, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Kenney, Councilmember Goode, Councilmember Oh, Councilmember Greenlee, Councilmember Jones, Councilmember Quiñones Sánchez, Councilmember Green, Councilmember Henon, Councilmember Reynolds Brown, Councilmember O'Neill, Councilmember Squilla, Councilmember O'Brien				
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Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result	Tally
11/20/2013	0	Committee on Education	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
11/20/2013	0	Committee on Education	HEARING HELD		
11/20/2013	0	Committee on Education	RECESSED		
9/19/2013	0	CITY COUNCIL	Introduced and Ordered Placed on This Week's Final Passage Calendar	Pass	
9/19/2013	0	CITY COUNCIL	ADOPTED		

Calling on the Philadelphia City Council Committee on Education to Hold Hearings Concerning the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Approach to Education Funding.

WHEREAS, The 2013 - 2014 enacted early, basic and higher education budget for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania totals \$11.63 billion, with \$9.75 billion going to support public schools, \$1.59 billion allocated to higher education, and \$61.1 million appropriated to libraries (Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2013 - 14 Enacted Education Budget); and

WHEREAS, Of the \$9.75 billion allocated to support public schools, \$5.52 billion is for basic education funding, \$100 million is for accountability grants, \$62 million is for career and technical education, \$3 million is for career and technical education equipment grants, \$864,000 is for mobile science and math education programs, \$1.03 billion is for special education, \$495 million is for school employees' social security, \$1.02 billion is for school employees' retirement, \$221.9 million is for early intervention, \$87.3 million is for Pre-K counts, and \$39.2 million is for Head Start supplemental assistance (Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2013 - 14 Enacted Education Budget); and

WHEREAS, Of the \$1.59 billion appropriated to higher education, community colleges will receive \$212.1 million, state-related universities will receive \$503.4 million, the state system of higher education will receive \$412.7 million, and \$344.8 million will be distributed through Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency grants (Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2013 - 14 Enacted Education Budget); and

WHEREAS, Of the \$61.1 million allotted for libraries, \$53.5 million is for public library subsidies, \$3 million is for

library access, and \$2.6 million is for library services for the visually impaired and disabled (Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2013 - 14 Enacted Education Budget); and

WHEREAS, On average, state governments across the country fund 43.5% of the total amount spent on public elementary and secondary education (United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Year 2009 - 2010*); and

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is below the national average with regards to funding public elementary and secondary education, contributing 35.8% (United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Year 2009 - 2010*); and

WHEREAS, In the City of Philadelphia, school libraries continue to close, school counselors and nurses are assigned to more than one location, school offices are understaffed, and the student-to -teacher- ratio is increasing; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Philadelphia City Council Committee on Education shall hold hearings concerning the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's approach to education funding.