



Board Briefing - HB 1422
Cyber School Reform Bill

Context of Cyber Schools in PA

- Original cyber school law passed in 2000.
- 14 Cyber Schools in PA
- Enroll approximately 61,000 students
- Cyber school tuition for PA 500 districts is about \$1 billion
- In 20-21, cyber schools spent \$35 million on advertising

Current tuition is a calculation of a schools annual budget and other factors. Actual cost per student will vary between districts but is around \$11,000 for a regular education student and \$24,000 for a student with a disability.

- ELSD \$12,393 (51) / \$23,896 (6)
- ELSD Total Cost \$775,456 / annually (57)

HB 1422 offers needed reforms

- Applies to all public schools (Brick and mortar districts, charter schools, cyber charter schools)
- Requires advertisements about tuition, transportation, and other costs must state that they are paid for with tax-payer dollars; cannot say they are free.
- Prohibits public schools from sponsoring public events such as parades, special night in the community, etc.
- Establishes a state-wide tuition rate of \$8,000 (reg ed.) and \$13,120 (special ed. Base X 1.64%).
- Charter schools requesting additional funding for special education students must prove to PDE the need based on services provided to the student.

Impact on ELSD if this bill passes the Senate and becomes law

- Reduce cyber school tuition cost to \$486,720 (Savings \$288,736)