

nical schools or classes shall be paid by the Commonwealth, annually, on account of instructional equipment approved, purchased and installed, a proportionate share of Federal and State funds available and expendable for that purpose. *The Department of Public Instruction may make advanced payment of available but unencumbered State and Federal funds to expedite the purchase of equipment.*

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

Act effective immediately.

APPROVED—The 13th day of July, A. D. 1957.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 398

AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P. L. 30), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," authorizing the State Board *for Vocational Education to administer the allocation of unencumbered Federal and State vocational education funds, the vocational training of unemployed adults and directing the preparation of a state-wide plan of area vocational technical schools and implementation thereof.

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

Public School Code of 1949.

Section 1. Article XVIII., act of March 10, 1949 (P. L. 30), known as the "Public School Code of 1949," is amended by adding, at the end, three new sections to read:

Article XVIII., act of March 10, 1949, P. L. 30, amended by adding three new sections 1848, 1849 and 1850.

Section 1848. State-wide Plan of Area Vocational Technical Schools.—The State Board for Vocational Education may formulate and adopt a state-wide plan of area vocational technical school attendance areas in counsel with county and district school superintendents, industrial, labor and lay representatives, for the purpose of controlling, promoting and administering area vocational technical schools and classes, taking into consideration population, density, community interests, facility of transportation, existing facilities, school organization and financial ability. The plan shall specifically define attendance areas, minimum facility, pupil capacity, curricular scope and objectives of the program, to be offered therein.

Section 1849. Petitions for Change of Plan.—Future development of area vocational technical schools shall, after approval of the State plan, conform to the plan,

*"of" in original.

and the school directors of a specified attendance area, having reason to question the practicability of the State plan for the specific attendance area or desiring to change the specified area, may present the case to a committee of the State Board for Vocational Education with petition for change. The decision of the State board thereon shall be final.

Section 1850. Area Vocational Technical Joint School Board Committee.—Determination of the type of school administration organization established to operate the area vocational technical school or classes under the county board of school directors shall be according to mutual agreement between the school directors of the participating school districts. When the organization so agreed upon is approved by the county board of school directors and the State Board for Vocational Education, the organization of school directors shall be designated as the Area Vocational Technical Joint School Board Committee and shall be extended all rights, privileges and authority provided by law to area vocational technical schools.

Section 2508 of the act, amended August 21, 1953, P. L. 1223, further amended.

Section 2. Section 2508 of the act, amended August 21, 1953 (P. L. 1223), is amended to read:

Section 2508. Distribution of [Federal] Unencumbered Funds for Vocational Education.—[In the event that the Congress of the United States provides additional funds for vocational education, the State Board for Vocational Education shall have authority to establish rules and regulations governing the administration and distribution of such funds.

In furtherance of the provisions of the Federal vocational education acts, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, with the approval of the State Board for Vocational Education, may allocate funds to school districts and vocational school districts, and to county boards of school directors with reference to area technical schools operated by them, for the conduct of vocational educational services and for the purchase of educational goods and services contributing to special vocational education needs and experimental programs essential to mobilization or demobilization of civilian manpower, to the extent that Federal and State funds are available and intended for such purposes.] *The State Board for Vocational Education shall administer the allocation of Federal and State vocational education funds which are otherwise unencumbered after all other payments mandated by law have been made. Allocations shall be made for the furtherance of the provisions of the State and Federal vocational education acts with emphasis on the improvement of facilities, reimburse-*

ment of teachers' salaries, research and projects which will contribute to the economic welfare of youth and adults.

Section 3. The act is amended by adding, after section 2508.2, a new section to read:

The act is amended by adding a new section 2508.3.

Section 2508.3. Payments for Vocational Training of Recipients of Public Assistance and Unemployment Compensation.—The State Board for Vocational Education shall establish rules and regulations and thereunder, approve and authorize payment of the full cost of intensive vocational education classes for qualified public assistance recipients or other unemployed, to take definite available employment which may be contingent upon such training.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

Act effective immediately.

APPROVED—The 13th day of July, A. D. 1957.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 399

AN ACT

Giving cities of the third class the right and power to adopt one of several plans of optional charters and to exercise the powers and authority of local self-government subject to certain restrictions and limitations; providing procedures for such adoption and defining the effect thereof.

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

ARTICLE I.

PRELIMINARY PROVISION.

Section 101. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Optional Third Class City Charter Law."

Optional Third Class City Charter Law.

Section 102. The following words and terms as used in the act, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, shall mean:

Definitions.

"City," a city of the third class.

Section 103. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the

Severability.