No. 177

AN ACT

To further amend the act, approved the tenth day of March, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 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," by conferring powers and imposing duties on county boards of school directors; providing for classes and schools for handicapped and for the payment for the cost of operation thereof.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Penn- "Public School Code of 1949." sylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 901 of the act, approved the tenth day of March, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 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," as amended by the act, approved the tenth day of August, one thousand nine hundred fiftyone (Pamphlet Laws 1159), is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 901. Annual Conventions and Special Meetings.—The school directors, in every county having a county superintendent of public schools, shall annually be called together at the county-seat or some other suitable place within the county, by the county superintendent of public schools. The purpose of such annual conventions shall be the consideration and the discussion. by the school directors and others, of questions and subjects pertaining to the welfare and promotion of the public schools in their respective counties, and such other business as may properly come before such conventions. In addition hereto, the county superintendent of public schools may call together the school directors within the county at the county-seat, or some other suitable place within the county designated by the county superintendent of public schools when any emergency may exist, or when, in the opinion of the county superintendent of public schools, a special meeting should be called for the consideration and discussion by the school directors and others of questions and subjects pertaining to the welfare and promotion of the public schools or their interests in their respective districts, or counties, and such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

The convention shall have power, at the annual convention or at any special meeting, to pass on and approve activities and services and schools and classes for handicapped to be provided, administered and supervised by the county board of school directors, and to authorize the same by a majority vote of those present.

Section 901, act of March 10, 1949, P. L. 30, as amended by act of August 10, 1951, P. L. 1159 further 1159, further amended.

Such action shall not be taken unless the secretary of each school board under the jurisdiction of the county superintendent has been advised at least forty (40) days previous to the convention or meeting at which such action is to be considered.

Section 2. Section 925 of said act, as last amended by the act, approved the twenty-eighth day of September, one thousand nine hundred fifty-one (Pamphlet Laws 1546), is hereby further amended by adding, at the end thereof, two new clauses to read as follows:

Section 925. Powers and Duties.—The county board of school directors, in respect to school districts under the supervision of the county superintendent, shall have power and its duty shall be—

* * * * *

(16) To estimate and file with the Department of Public Instruction the cost of classes and schools for handicapped, whenever such classes and schools are authorized on or before the first day of July of each year.

(17) To employ temporary professional and professional employes, supervisors and teachers and to employ all other persons necessary to carry on education and training for handicapped children and to determine the salaries to be paid. All professional employes so employed shall have the same rights of membership in the Public School Employes' Retirement Association as professional employes of school districts.

Section 3. Said act is hereby further amended by adding, immediately following section 2509 thereof, a new section to read as follows:

Section 2509.1. Payment on Account of Classes and Schools for Handicapped.—(a) Every county board shall be paid, on the first day of August and the first day of January of each school year that classes and schools for handicapped children are conducted, in equal installments, the amount of estimated costs for the operation thereof. Such payments shall be deducted from the reimbursements due the district of residence of each handicapped child attending such classes or schools. Reimbursement on account of handicapped children shall be made to the district of residence even though such child attends classes or schools conducted by a county board of school directors.

For each child who is blind, deaf or afflicted with cerebral palsy, attending such classes or school, the county board shall be paid by the district of residence the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200), and shall be paid by the Commonwealth, out of moneys appropriated to the Department of Public Instruction, the balance of the cost of education and training of such child, which amount shall not exceed seventy-five per cent of the total cost

Said act further amended by adding, immediately tollowing section 2509 thereof, a new section numbered 2509.1.

Section 925, said act, as last amended by act of September 28, 1951, P. L. 1546, further amended by adding, at end thereof, two new clauses (16) and (17). of education of such child who is blind, deaf or afflicted by cerebral palsy, in a residence school for similar education.

(b) Whenever children from districts under the supervision of a district superintendent *attend classes or schools for handicapped conducted by a county board, the county board shall be paid an amount equal to the charge per pupil made against such district, which shall be deducted from the reimbursements due such district.

Section 4. The provisions of this act shall become Act effective imeffective immediately upon final enactment.

APPROVED—The 27th day of July, A. D. 1953.

JOHN S. FINE

No. 178

AN ACT

To amend clause (2) of section 204 of the act, approved the tenth day of March, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 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," by extending the provisions relating to change of classification of school districts.

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

Section 1. Clause (2) of section 204 of the act, ap-proved the tenth day of March, one thousand nine hun-of March 10, dred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 30), entitled "An act 1949, P. L. 30, amended. 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," is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 204. Basis for and Change of Classification.-The last United States census, as set forth in the official report thereof, shall be the basis on which the population of the several school districts shall be computed. A change from one class of school district to another shall be made in the following cases, and in no other :--

(2) When a district, which at a decennial census, had sufficient population to entitle it to an advance to another class of district, has since suffered a large decrease in population, or which at a decennial census did not have sufficient population to entitle it to an advance to another class of district and has since increased in popula-

* "attends" in original.

mediately.