

# Public Education Cost Containment Effort

- **Act 24 of 2011 (Omnibus School Code)**
  - **Moratorium on PIMS (Pa Information Management System under Department of Education) and PELICAN (PA Enterprise to Link Information for Children Across Network under Department of Public Welfare) shall be in place until end of school year 2013 except any information required under any federal regulation.**
  - **Approval of plans for construction shall not be required where state reimbursement is not requested.**
  - **Approval of construction shall not be required where state reimbursement is not requested.**
  - **Allow school boards to appoint or elect a superintendent or assistant superintendent who holds a graduate level degree in business or finance. Each superintendent or assistant superintendent shall successfully complete a leadership development program that meets the Pennsylvania School Leadership standards.**

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- **Act 24 of 2011 (Omnibus School Code)**
  - Temporarily suspends provisions requiring school entities to submit three-year professional development plans and credits/hours toward continuing education requirements for professional employees. Credits/hours accrued during this two-year period will count towards the five-year requirement period after the moratorium ends. Superintendents and assistant superintendents shall meet the School Leadership standards during this time period.
  - Repeals the school code section that requires school districts to use any basic education funding increase above the inflationary index to create new programs or expand existing programs.
- **Act 25 of 2011 (Taxpayer Relief Act)**
  - Reduced the number of exceptions a school can use to raise property rates without voter referendum
  - Allows businesses to pay their property taxes in installments

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- **Act 59 of 2013 (Omnibus School Code)**
  - **Budget Reopener (New Section 616.1):** Establishes a permanent School Code provision to allow school districts to reopen their annual budgets each year for 30 days following enactment of the annual General Appropriation Act.
  - **Electronic Filing (Amendments to Sections 687 and 2133):** Requires school districts to file budgets electronically with the House and Senate Education Committees.
    - Including this requirement in the School Code will reduce paperwork and increase efficiency for House and Senate Education Committee and PDE staff, which currently receive budgets in paper form and then scan each budget to create an electronic version that can be distributed to members and others who request copies.
  - **Elimination of Duplicate Health Exams for Teachers (Amendment to Section 1209):** Repeals language requiring new teachers to have a health exam prior to being certified, in addition to having a health exam prior to employment (which is required under Section 1418 of the School Code).
    - This amendment may save each new teacher as much as \$200, as the new teacher will be required to have a health exam only prior to employment. In many cases, the pre-employment health exam will occur very shortly after or simultaneously with certification.
    - This amendment will make PDE's teacher certification process more efficient by minimizing unnecessary, duplicative paperwork.