

Bill to Boost Education Opportunities Now Law

By State Rep. Joe Emrick
BETHLEHEM - House Bill 301, along with Senate Bill 843, are long-overdue state budget-related bills that, among other things, provide for the distribution of funding to public libraries, career and technical schools, community colleges and more.

Two of the state's most successful programs to boost educational choice and opportunity for students will see a combined funding increase of \$150 million under legislation approved by the General Assembly and signed into law by the governor.

House Bill 301 increases funding for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program by \$130 million to a total of \$470 million, while the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) program increases by \$20 million to a total of \$85 million.

The programs provide tax credits for contributions from businesses to scholarship organizations, educational improvement organizations, pre-kindergarten scholarship organizations and opportunity scholarship organizations. The contributions are used to support scholarships and other educational programming for Pennsylvania students.



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