

To amend section one thousand four hundred and two of an act, approved the eighteenth day of May, Anno Domini one thousand nine hundred and eleven, entitled "An act to establish a public school system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, together with the provisions by which it shall be administered, and prescribing penalties for the violation thereof; providing revenue to establish and maintain the same, and the method of collecting such revenue; and repealing all laws, general, special, or local, or any parts thereof, that are or may be inconsistent therewith," so far as to insure school privileges to certain dependent children of the Commonwealth.

Public school system.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That section one thousand four hundred and two of an act, approved on the eighteenth day of May, Anno Domini one thousand nine hundred and eleven, entitled "An act to establish a public school system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, together with the provisions by which it shall be administered, and prescribing penalties for the violation thereof; providing revenue to establish and maintain the same, and the method of collecting such revenue; and repealing all laws, general, special, or local, or any parts thereof, that are or may be inconsistent therewith," which reads as follows:—

Section 1402, act of May 18, 1911 (P. L. 309), cited for amendment.

"Section 1402. A child shall be considered a resident of the school district in which his parents or the guardian of his person resides. *If any child has no parents or guardian of his person, then such child shall be considered a resident of the district in which the person sustaining parental relations to such child resides,*" is hereby amended to read as follows:—

Residence of children.

Section 1402. A child shall be considered a resident of the school district in which his parents or the guardian of his person resides. *When a resident of any school district keeps in his home a child of school age, not his own, supporting the child gratis as if it were his own, such child shall be entitled to all free school privileges accorded to resident school children of the district, and shall be subject to all the requirements placed upon resident school children of the district: Provided, That before accepting such child as a pupil, the board of school directors of the district may require such resident to file with the secretary of the board a sworn statement that he is a resident of the district, that he is supporting the child gratis, that he will assume all personal obligations for the child relative to school requirements, and that he intends to so keep and support the child continuously and not merely through the school term.*

Dependent children entitled to school privileges.

Where resident is compensated for keeping child.

*When a nonresident child is placed in the home of a resident of any school district by order of court or by arrangement with an association, agency, or institution having the care of neglected and dependent*

children, such resident being compensated for keeping the child, any child of school age so placed shall be permitted to attend the public school of the district in which he is placed; and the State shall reimburse the district for the education of such child to an amount not exceeding the actual average cost of tuition, text-books, and supplies for the district's children of similar grade; such reimbursement to be made out of the money appropriated by the General Assembly for the maintenance and support of the public schools of this Commonwealth: Provided, That the school district may not be required to accept such children in its schools when their acceptance would involve additional provision for transportation by the district, or would require the district to provide additional teachers or rooms, at an expense greater than the amount of reimbursement paid to the district by the State.

Reimbursement of school district.

When children need not be accepted by district.

Any resident of any school district, before accepting custody of a nonresident child of school age for compensation by order of court or by arrangement with an association, agency, or institution having the care of dependent or neglected children, must secure, from the superintendent of schools, supervising principal, or school board in that district, a statement in writing that the child can be accommodated in the schools of the district or that the child can not be so accommodated and the reasons therefor. If such statement be not furnished within two weeks after a request in writing has been made to the board's secretary, the supervising principal, or the superintendent of schools, the board's assent shall be assumed, and the child shall be admitted to the schools of the district as a pupil. If such statement sets forth conditions such as to exempt the district under this section from accepting the child as a pupil, and if such exemption be not disapproved on appeal by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and if other arrangement for the child's schooling satisfactory to the county or district superintendent be not made, the child may not be placed in the district.

Duty of custodian before accepting child.

Appeal from the claim of any school district for exemption as provided in this section may be taken to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and his decision thereon after investigation shall be final.

Section 2. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Repeal.

APPROVED—The 20th day of May, A. D. 1921.

WM. C. SPROUL.