

RESOLUTION OPPOSING RESTRICTING
FEDERAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REIMBURSEMENT

The Board of School Directors of the Twin Valley School District
on April 22, 2014 agreed to the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Twin Valley School District is committed and required to provide all students with a free and appropriate public education that allows all children to become successful and productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Twin Valley School District is committed and required to provide all students regardless of disability with the essential services to be successful in school and in life; and

WHEREAS, Twin Valley School District like many other school districts and intermediate units across the Commonwealth rely on federal Medical Assistance reimbursement through the Medical Assistance School Based Access (Access) program to help fund essential services to children with disabilities;

WHEREAS, without the timely and consistent disbursement of these funds from the Department of Public Welfare to the Twin Valley School District for services that our students are entitled to by law and which will then have to fund these services through local revenue; and,

WHEREAS, changes to eligible services for Medical Assistance has also resulted in the loss of millions of dollars to school districts across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, more than \$28 million in school district and intermediate unit reimbursement claims have been rejected by the Department of Public Welfare due to its insistence on evidence that a private insurer will not cover the services where there is no experience or precedent in Pennsylvania or in any other state in the union that private insurers cover these services; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is the ONLY state in the country that requires a blanket letter of denial as a condition for a school district to receive Medical Assistance reimbursement through the Medical Assistance School Based Access program; and

WHEREAS, more than 100 insurers representing millions of dollars in unpaid reimbursements have yet to sign a blanket letter of denial; and

WHEREAS, this has resulted in millions of dollars in unpaid claims for essential services that school districts and intermediate units are required to provide to their students; and

WHEREAS, school districts and intermediate units still have not received full payment for claims from the only ten insurers that have signed a blanket letter of denial; and

WHEREAS, there is still no resolution regarding unpaid claims and the Twin Valley School District has been informed that any and all unpaid claims as of May 10, 2014 will be permanently dismissed and left unfunded; and

WHEREAS, this unnecessary and unprecedented requirement of obtaining a blanket letter of denial risks leaving millions of dollars in federal funding unclaimed for services provided to children with disabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of School Directors of the Twin Valley School District urges the Pennsylvania General Assembly, Pennsylvania State Senate, The Corbett Administration and the Pennsylvania Department of Education to demand that the Department of Public Welfare and the Public Consulting Group remove the unprecedented barriers and requirements recently imposed to restrict the federal Medical Assistance reimbursement through the Medical Assistance School Based Access program for essential services to Pennsylvania's most vulnerable children.

The Twin Valley School District seeks support from its local legislators and members of the Senate and House Education Committees in petitioning the Corbett Administration, the Department of Public Welfare and the Public Consulting Group to allow the funding to flow to school districts and intermediate units to support essential services to students with disabilities.