

Pa. school bus victim challenging \$500k damage cap

By MARYCLAIRE DALE
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - A young woman who lost a leg when she was struck by a runaway school bus wants Pennsylvania's high court to overturn a \$500,000 cap on damages.

Ashley Zauflik's lawyer says she deserves the full \$14 million a jury awarded over the 2007 accident at Pennsbury High School in Bucks County.

Lawyer Tom Kline will argue her case to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court on Tuesday.

He says the law cheats Zauflik, now 23, out of the damages she would have gotten from a private bus company. The jury award was slashed to \$500,000.

Lawyer Stephen Cozen, representing the Pennsbury School District, says the law is designed to protect public funds.

The cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, along with other public agencies, have urged the court to uphold the damage cap.