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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1540 Session of  
2009

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INTRODUCED BY J. EVANS, BRADFORD, CLYMER, CREIGHTON, DALLY,  
DENLINGER, HARKINS, HESS, KAUFFMAN, METZGAR, MILNE, MOUL,  
MURT, PICKETT, PYLE, RAPP, ROHRER, SIPTROTH, SONNEY, WATERS  
AND YOUNGBLOOD, MAY 26, 2009

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 26, 2009

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," in duties and powers of boards of  
6 school directors, further providing for school athletics,  
7 publications and organizations.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 511(a) of the act of March 10, 1949  
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
12 amended April 14, 1949 (P.L.460, No.85), is amended and the  
13 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

14 Section 511. School Athletics, Publications, and  
15 Organizations.--

16 (a) The board of school directors in every school district  
17 shall prescribe, adopt, and enforce such reasonable rules and  
18 regulations as it may deem proper, regarding (1) the management,  
19 supervision, control, or prohibition of exercises, athletics, or

1 games of any kind, school publications, debating, forensic,  
2 dramatic, musical, and other activities related to the school  
3 program, including raising and disbursing funds for any or all  
4 of such purposes and for scholarships, and (2) the organization,  
5 management, supervision, control, financing, or prohibition of  
6 organizations, clubs, societies and groups of the members of any  
7 class or school, and may provide for the suspension, dismissal,  
8 or other reasonable penalty in the case of any appointee,  
9 professional or other employe, or pupil who violates any of such  
10 rules or regulations. The board shall provide for the inclusion  
11 in any of these activities any student who lives within the  
12 school district, attends a private or nonpublic school and  
13 elects to participate in such public school activities that are  
14 not offered by the private or nonpublic school. The student  
15 shall be subject to the same rules and regulations that apply to  
16 students enrolled in the school district relating to such  
17 activities.

18 (a.1) The board of school directors shall not restrict  
19 inclusions of a student who lives within the school district but  
20 is enrolled in a charter or cyber charter school, private or  
21 nonpublic school or participating in a home education program,  
22 in an activity in accordance with subsection (a) by making the  
23 activity or converting the activity to be part of the regular  
24 school curriculum or by granting credit toward graduation  
25 requirements for participation. Nothing in this section shall  
26 preclude a school district from providing a public school  
27 student with credit for participation in such activities.

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29 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.