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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1184 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY R. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, D. COSTA, CRUZ, FARINA, GINGRICH, MILLARD AND NEILSON, APRIL 15, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 15, 2013

AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," further providing for health services.

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

Section 1. Section 1402 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a subsection to read:

Section 1402. Health Services.--* * *

<u>(e.1) (i) The Department of Education and the Department of Health, in consultation with Statewide organizations representing physicians, psychologists, social workers and school counselors, shall develop age-appropriate mental health screening examinations for children of school age within one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this subsection.</u>

<u>(ii) The mental health screening examinations developed</u>

under subclause (i) shall be administered annually to each child of school age by the school physicians of each district or joint board, subject to the provisions of section 1407. The results of the mental health screening examinations administered under this subclause shall be:

(A) reported to the child's parent or guardian;

(B) reported to the child's school; and

(C) included in the comprehensive health record required to be maintained for each child of school age pursuant to subsection (b).

(iii) The Department of Education may develop any guidelines or standards necessary to implement this subsection.

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