

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 748 Session of  
2013

INTRODUCED BY BOSCOLA, COSTA, TARTAGLIONE, FERLO, FARNESE AND  
ALLOWAY, MARCH 26, 2013

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 26, 2013

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," providing for blood donation  
6 education.

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

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

12 Section 1526. Blood Donation Education.--(a) The department  
13 shall, in cooperation with the Department of Health:

14 (1) Establish a unit of instruction to educate students in  
15 grades eleven and twelve regarding blood donation, to emphasize  
16 the need for donated blood and to encourage blood donation and  
17 participation in blood donation programs for students in grades  
18 eleven and twelve.

19 (2) Develop and distribute appropriate educational materials  
20 and resources to educators and public and nonpublic schools.

1     (b) The unit of instruction required under subsection (a)  
2 shall be integrated within the health course of study required  
3 in accordance with the State Board of Education regulations  
4 contained in 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4 (relating to academic standards  
5 and assessment). The department may utilize any appropriate  
6 public or private materials, personnel and other resources in  
7 developing and implementing this unit of instruction.

8     (c) The unit of instruction required under subsection (a)  
9 shall include:

10     (1) A physiology component relating to blood, blood types  
11 and the circulatory system.

12     (2) A need and usage component that includes information  
13 relating to:

14     (i) The frequency of and situations where donated blood is  
15 needed.

16     (ii) Procedures utilized for the collection of donated blood  
17 and the safety of those procedures.

18     (iii) Procedures utilized for the storage of donated blood  
19 and the various uses of donated blood.

20     (iv) Specific instances where an available donated blood  
21 supply assisted individuals in need.

22     (3) A participation component to encourage students to  
23 donate blood and volunteer at local blood banks, which component  
24 emphasizes the personal rewards and community benefits from  
25 donation and participation.

26     (d) (1) A student shall be excused from participation in  
27 the unit of instruction required under subsection (a) if the  
28 student or, if the student is less than eighteen (18) years of  
29 age, the student's parent or guardian objects in writing to such  
30 participation on religious grounds.

1     (2) No student excused under paragraph (1) may be penalized  
2     for the excuse. During the time period that the unit of  
3     instruction is presented, a substitute unit of instruction shall  
4     be provided to the student in accordance with regulations  
5     promulgated by the State Board of Education.

6     (e) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules and  
7     regulations necessary for the implementation of this section.

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