

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 285 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, MARTIN, J. WARD AND MASTRIANO,
JANUARY 31, 2023

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JANUARY 31, 2023

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 terms and courses of study,
6 providing for instruction in the events and significance of
7 September 11, 2001.

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

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

13 Section 1555. Instruction in the Events and Significance of
14 September 11, 2001.--(a) No later than twelve (12) months after
15 the effective date of this section, the Department of Education
16 shall establish a model curriculum for instruction in the events
17 and significance of September 11, 2001. The model curriculum
18 shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following
19 topics where appropriate:

20 (1) The historical context of terrorism.

1 (2) The terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the
2 Pentagon and United Airlines Flight 93 which crashed in
3 Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

4 (3) American recovery and response to the attacks.

5 (4) Global challenges and consequences in a post-September
6 11 world.

7 (b) The Department of Education shall make available on the
8 department's publicly accessible Internet website curriculum
9 materials and other available resources regarding the events and
10 significance of September 11, 2001, for voluntary use by school
11 entities and nonpublic schools.

12 (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a
13 school entity or nonpublic school to implement, adopt or use the
14 curriculum, materials and other resources made available by the
15 Department of Education under this section.

16 (d) For purposes of this section, the term "school entity"
17 shall mean a school district, charter school, regional charter
18 school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit or area career
19 and technical school.

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