
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1172 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY CALTAGIRONE AND MCGINNIS, APRIL 12, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 12, 2017

AN ACT

1 Requiring the Department of Education to manage collective
2 bargaining for school district personnel and to prepare a
3 plan for consolidation of school districts.

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

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Public School
8 Reform Act.

9 Section 2. Declaration of policy.

10 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

11 (1) It is necessary to consider massive changes in the
12 public school system of the Commonwealth.

13 (2) Financing of public schools is of critical concern
14 to the Commonwealth.

15 (3) The most important aspects of public school
16 financing are:

17 (i) collective bargaining;

18 (ii) physical facilities;

19 (iii) supplies; and

1 (iv) transportation.

2 Section 3. Definitions.

3 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
4 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
5 context clearly indicates otherwise:

6 "Department." The Department of Education of the
7 Commonwealth.

8 "School district." A unit established under Article II of
9 the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public
10 School Code of 1949.

11 "School district personnel." Employees of a school district.
12 Section 4. School district personnel.

13 (a) Collective bargaining.--The department shall be the
14 public employer for purposes of collective bargaining with the
15 employee representative of school district personnel under the
16 act of July 23, 1970 (P.L.563, No.195), known as the Public
17 Employe Relations Act.

18 (b) Administration.--Each school district has authority over
19 selection, termination, promotion, demotion and discipline of
20 school district personnel.

21 (c) Applicability.--This section shall apply to collective
22 bargaining agreements entered into or renewed on or after the
23 effective date of this section.

24 Section 5. Consolidation.

25 The department shall prepare a plan for consolidation of
26 school districts in order to do all of the following:

27 (1) Reduce the number of school districts.

28 (2) Maximize utilization of:

29 (i) physical facilities; and

30 (ii) supplies.

- 1 (3) Minimize transportation costs.
- 2 (4) Equalize Commonwealth funding.
- 3 (5) Recommend appropriate changes in applicable statutes
- 4 and regulations.
- 5 Section 6. Effective date.
- 6 This act shall take effect in 60 days.