

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2287 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY SNYDER, KIRKLAND, P. COSTA, MURT, HAGGERTY,  
SCHLOSSBERG, STEPHENS, STURLA, CONKLIN, CALTAGIRONE, KAUFER,  
YOUNGBLOOD, TOEPEL, DRISCOLL, FRANKEL, DeLUCA, WARREN,  
ROEBUCK, HILL-EVANS, WARD, SCHWEYER AND GILLEN,  
APRIL 19, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 19, 2018

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 certification of teachers,  
6 providing for crisis training continuing professional  
7 development course.

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 1218. Crisis Training Continuing Professional  
14 Development Course.--(a) The Department of Education shall  
15 develop and implement a continuing professional education course  
16 on crisis training.

17 (b) The courses established by the department may be used by  
18 professional educators to satisfy the requirements of section  
19 1205.2.

1     (c) The Department of Education shall develop the continuing  
2 professional education course in a manner that provides  
3 professional educators with information and strategies to keep  
4 the children in this Commonwealth's schools safe.

5     (d) The continuing professional education course shall  
6 include training on the following:

7         (1) Information and strategies on how to recognize signs  
8 that students may need professional help threat assessment.

9         (2) Application of training strategies for active shooter  
10 civilian responses.

11         (3) Exercises with the Pennsylvania State Police or local  
12 law enforcement in responding to a crisis situation.

13         (4) Participation in a simulated active shooter and intruder  
14 response drill conducted and led by law enforcement  
15 professionals. Each drill may include an explanation of its  
16 purpose and a safety briefing. The training shall require each  
17 participant to know and understand how to respond in the event  
18 of an actual emergency on school property or at a school event.

19         (5) Information and techniques on how to address situations  
20 where an active shooter is present in a school or on school  
21 property.

22     (e) Continuing professional education course materials may  
23 include the following:

24         (1) Materials that educate educators in safety tools.

25         (2) Teaching aids that allow teachers to experience a crisis  
26 situation.

27         (3) Tabletop exercises of discussion-based critical incident  
28 or emergency exercises.

29     (f) By July 31, 2018, and each July 31 thereafter, the  
30 Department of Education shall submit to the chairman and

1 minority chairman of the Education Committee of the Senate and  
2 the chairman and minority chairman of the Education Committee of  
3 the House of Representatives a report that includes:

4 (1) The number of professional educators who have enrolled  
5 in the continuing professional education course.

6 (2) The number of professional educators who have completed  
7 the continuing education course.

8 (3) Any issue that professional educators, administrators,  
9 students or the Department of Education have identified and need  
10 to be addressed.

11 (g) The course established under subsection (a) shall be  
12 voluntary, offered online and at no cost to professional  
13 educators.

14 (h) For the purpose of this section, the following words and  
15 phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection  
16 unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

17 "Crisis situation" shall mean an emergency situation that  
18 causes or has the potential to cause injury or loss of life to  
19 faculty, staff, students or the public. The term includes, but  
20 is not limited to, crime, terrorism, armed intruder or other  
21 violent threat to the life, health and safety of people or that  
22 damages or destroys property or causes major disruptions of  
23 regular activities.

24 "Professional educator" shall mean an individual who holds a  
25 Pennsylvania teacher, educational specialist or administrative  
26 certification or letter of eligibility.

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