

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 265

Sponsor: SENATOR LANGERHOLC

Printer's No. 236

1 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 1 through 10, by striking out all
2 of said lines and inserting

3 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled
4 "An act relating to the public school system, including
5 certain provisions applicable as well to private and
6 parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and
7 changing the laws relating thereto," in preliminary
8 provisions, providing for career information and recruitment;
9 in terms and courses of study, further providing for
10 Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence; in
11 vocational education, further providing for career and
12 technical education equipment grants and providing for
13 utilization of credits; providing for classification of
14 program code; and, in transfers of credits between
15 institutions of higher education, further providing for
16 definitions, for duties of public institutions of higher
17 education and State-related institutions, for Transfer and
18 Articulation Oversight Committee and for duties of
19 department.

20 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 13 through 21; pages 2 through 7,
21 lines 1 through 30; page 8, lines 1 through 8; by striking out
22 all of said lines on said pages and inserting

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

26 Section 128. Career Information and Recruitment.--(a)
27 Subject to subsection (d), a school entity shall offer
28 representatives of skilled trades, publicly identified priority
29 occupations, area vocational-technical schools, community
30 colleges operating under Article XIX-A and institutions of
31 higher education the opportunity to participate in the
32 following:

33 (1) Delivery of information regarding employment, employment
34 training or education opportunities to students enrolled in the
35 school entity.

1 (2) Recruitment of students enrolled in the school entity.

2 (b) Each school entity receiving assistance under the Every
3 Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114-95, 129 Stat. 1802) shall
4 provide military recruiters the same access to students as
5 provided under subsection (a).

6 (c) Representatives under subsection (a) must be compliant
7 with the requirements under 23 Pa.C.S. § 6344.2 (relating to
8 volunteers having contact with children) and shall give no less
9 than thirty (30) days' notice when requesting access from a
10 school entity under subsection (a)(1) or (2).

11 (d) A school entity shall:

12 (1) Offer each of the representatives under subsections (a)
13 and (b) at least one opportunity during the school year to
14 provide age-appropriate information to all students in grades
15 four through twelve regarding educational opportunities,
16 employment training or career opportunities, individually or in
17 a group setting, through making a presentation at a school
18 assembly, hosting students for a visit to an area vocational-
19 technical school, community college, institution of higher
20 education or place of employment or any other method of speaking
21 directly to students.

22 (2) Document annually the following in the plan developed
23 under 22 Pa. Code § 339.31 (relating to plan):

24 (i) The school entity's compliance with this section for the
25 immediately preceding school year.

26 (ii) The school entity's plan to provide students with
27 access to informational materials and career presenters as
28 required under this section in the following school year.

29 (3) Post the plan on the school entity's publicly accessible
30 Internet website.

31 (e) A school entity may not discourage students from
32 pursuing any educational or career path and shall ensure that
33 each student enrolled in the school entity has access to the
34 information and activities required to be provided under this
35 section.

36 (f) The Department of Education, in collaboration with the
37 Department of Labor and Industry, shall develop:

38 (1) Standard informational materials which include, but are
39 not limited to, a summary of regional workforce needs produced
40 biennially by the Department of Labor and Industry, career
41 cluster occupations, publicly identified priority occupations,
42 training opportunities and future earning potential. The
43 materials shall be reviewed and updated annually. Each school
44 entity shall ensure that all students in grades four through
45 twelve are provided access to the materials during the school
46 year and the materials are also made available at any scheduled
47 educational or career fair or activity under subsection (a) or
48 (d).

49 (2) Guidelines to assist school entities in the
50 implementation of this section.

51 (g) As used in this section, the following words and phrases

1 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless
2 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 "Institution of higher education." An accredited entity
4 which is any of the following:

5 (1) A university within the State System of Higher Education
6 under Article XX-A.

7 (2) The Pennsylvania State University, the University of
8 Pittsburgh, Temple University, Lincoln University or any other
9 institution designated as State-related by the Commonwealth.

10 (3) The Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

11 (4) A college established under Article XIX-G.

12 (5) An institution of higher education located in and
13 incorporated or chartered by the Commonwealth and entitled to
14 confer degrees as specified in 24 Pa.C.S. § 6505 (relating to
15 power to confer degrees) and as provided for by the standards
16 and qualifications prescribed by the State Board of Education
17 under 24 Pa.C.S. Ch. 65 (relating to private colleges,
18 universities and seminaries).

19 (6) A private school licensed under the act of December 15,
20 1986 (P.L.1585, No.174), known as the Private Licensed Schools
21 Act.

22 (7) A foreign corporation approved to operate an educational
23 enterprise under 22 Pa. Code Ch. 36 (relating to foreign
24 corporation standards).

25 "Publicly identified priority occupation." A profession
26 that:

27 (1) Is high-wage and high-skill for which there is excess
28 employer demand as may be included in the Department of Labor
29 and Industry's current year's high-priority or in-demand
30 occupations list or the State System of Higher Education's
31 workforce needs assessment.

32 (2) Requires a credential, certification, licensing,
33 postsecondary training, associate's degree, bachelor's degree,
34 master's degree or doctoral or first professional degree.

35 "School entity." An area vocational-technical school, school
36 district, intermediate unit, cyber charter school, charter
37 school or regional charter school.

38 Section 2. Section 1549.1(1) of the act is amended by adding
39 a paragraph to read:

40 Section 1549.1. Commission for Agricultural Education
41 Excellence.--* * *

42 (1) The commission shall have all the following powers and
43 duties:

44 * * *

45 (6) In consultation with and with the approval of the
46 Department of Education, develop guidelines to identify the
47 circumstances when a student who successfully completes an
48 academic course, program or activity for credit may apply the
49 credit toward the completion of an agricultural education
50 program. The guidelines developed under this paragraph shall be
51 posted on the Department of Education's publicly accessible

1 Internet website within fifteen days of approval. The Department
2 of Education shall review the guidelines at least every five
3 years. Any proposed update to the guidelines shall be developed
4 in consultation with the commission.

5 * * *

6 Section 3. Section 1855 of the act is amended by adding a
7 subsection to read:

8 Section 1855. Career and Technical Education Equipment
9 Grants.--* * *

10 (b.1) A piece of equipment purchased with money from the
11 grant program must satisfy the following criteria:

12 (1) Support student hands-on training in approved career and
13 technical education programs that lead to high-growth or high-
14 demand careers.

15 (2) Cost three thousand dollars (\$3,000) or more per unit or
16 per complete set of tools.

17 (3) Retain its original shape, appearance and character with
18 use.

19 (4) Retain its identity through fabrication or incorporation
20 into a different or more complex unit or substance.

21 (5) Be nonexpendable, such that if the equipment is damaged
22 or some of its parts are lost or worn out, it is more feasible
23 to repair the equipment than to replace the equipment with an
24 entirely new unit.

25 (6) Be expected to serve its principal purpose for more than
26 a twelve (12) month fiscal period under normal conditions of
27 use, including reasonable care and maintenance.

28 (7) Be in compliance with any other criteria determined by
29 the Department of Education.

30 * * *

31 Section 4. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

32 Section 1856. Utilization of Credits.--The Department of
33 Education shall issue guidelines and update the guidelines every
34 five years to identify the circumstances when a student who
35 successfully completes a course, program or activity in science,
36 technology, engineering or mathematics for credit may apply the
37 credit toward the completion of a course, program or activity
38 offered by any area vocational-technical school, technical
39 institute or vocational school or department.

40 Section 5. The act is amended by adding an article to read:

41 ARTICLE XIX-H

42 CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE

43 Section 1901-H. Definitions.

44 The following words and phrases when used in this article
45 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
46 context clearly indicates otherwise:

47 "Classification of program code." A numerical coding of
48 instructional programs developed by the United States Department
49 of Education used to identify vocational programs.

50 "Department." The Department of Education of the
51 Commonwealth.

1 "Public school entity." A school district, charter school,
2 regional charter school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit
3 or area vocational-technical school.

4 Section 1902-H. Establishment or renewal of classification of
5 program code.

6 The department shall establish a standard application form
7 for a public school entity seeking approval to establish or
8 renew a classification of program code. The form shall be
9 published on the department's publicly accessible Internet
10 website. The form shall require the following information:

11 (1) The name of the public school entity seeking
12 approval to establish or renew a classification of program
13 code.

14 (2) The title of the classification of program code.

15 (3) The occupational competency area of the
16 classification of program code.

17 (4) A description of the classification of program code.

18 (5) A list of skills that a student must attain in order
19 to complete the classification of program code.

20 (6) Evidence of financial support for the classification
21 of program code from the public school entity.

22 (7) Any additional information that the department deems
23 necessary to determine whether to approve or disapprove of
24 the classification of program code.

25 Section 1903-H. Submission of applications.

26 No later than January 31 of each year, a public school entity
27 may submit the application under section 1902-H to the
28 department for approval or disapproval of a classification of
29 program code.

30 Section 1904-H. Notice of approval or denial of applications.

31 (a) Notice.--No later than May 31 of the year the department
32 receives an application under section 1902-H, the department
33 shall notify a public school entity which submitted the
34 application whether the department approved or denied the
35 application.

36 (b) Posting.--No later than June 15 of the year the
37 department approved the application under subsection (a), the
38 department shall post the classification of program code on its
39 publicly accessible Internet website.

40 Section 6. Sections 2001-C and 2003-C of the act are amended
41 to read:

42 Section 2001-C. Definitions.

43 The following words and phrases when used in this article
44 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
45 context clearly indicates otherwise:

46 "Advanced Placement Program." A program authorized by the
47 college board that allows a student to study college-level
48 subjects while enrolled in high school and to receive advanced
49 placement and college credit for earning a qualified score on
50 the course-related Advanced Placement Program exam.

51 "Career, technical or applied courses." Courses usually

1 offered as part of an associate degree curriculum designed to
2 prepare students for entry-level professions, not for transfer
3 to baccalaureate programs for advanced studies.

4 "College-Level Examination Program." A set of standardized
5 tests developed by the college board for various subjects, and
6 on which a qualifying score can be used to earn college credit.

7 "Community college." An institution created pursuant to
8 Article XIX-A or the act of August 24, 1963 (P.L.1132, No.484),
9 known as the Community College Act of 1963.

10 "Credit for prior learning." College-level credit granted
11 toward the award of a postsecondary degree or certificate for
12 experiential learning that can be demonstrated through various
13 means of assessment to be the equivalent of learning gained
14 through formal collegiate instruction, including an Advanced
15 Placement Program exam, International Baccalaureate Diploma
16 Program exam, a College-Level Examination Program exam and
17 Dantes Subject Standardized Tests.

18 "Dantes Subject Standardized Tests." A set of subject exams
19 approved by the American Council on Education that tests
20 knowledge of both lower-level and upper-level college material.

21 ["Degree objective courses." Courses required for completion
22 of a major in a subject area.]

23 "Department." The Department of Education of the
24 Commonwealth.

25 "Developmental or remedial courses." Courses typically
26 consisting of reading, writing and math designed to prepare
27 students for college-level courses and that are not
28 transferable.

29 "Equivalent courses." Courses determined to have generally
30 equivalent content and level as determined by the faculty of an
31 institution of higher education consistent with the policy at
32 each institution of higher education.

33 "Foundation courses." Courses required to be completed by
34 students that provide an academic foundation for the degree,
35 general education or advanced study in a major.

36 "Independent institution of higher education." An
37 institution of higher education which is operated not for
38 profit, located in and incorporated or chartered by the
39 Commonwealth and entitled to confer degrees as set forth in 24
40 Pa.C.S. § 6505 (relating to power to confer degrees) and to
41 apply to itself the designation "college" or "university" as
42 provided for by the standards and qualifications prescribed by
43 the State Board of Education pursuant to 24 Pa.C.S. Ch. 65
44 (relating to private colleges, universities and seminaries).

45 "Industry-recognized credential." A credential that:

46 (1) is sought or accepted by employers within the
47 industry or sector involved as a recognized, preferred or
48 required credential for recruitment, screening, hiring,
49 retention or advancement purposes;

50 (2) where appropriate, is endorsed by a nationally
51 recognized trade association or organization representing a

1 significant part of the industry or sector; and

2 (3) is approved by the department.

3 "Institution of higher education." Any of the accredited
4 following:

5 (1) A public institution of higher education.

6 (2) A rural regional college.

7 (3) A State-related institution.

8 (4) The Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

9 "International Baccalaureate Diploma Program." An
10 academically challenging two-year precollege diploma program
11 comprised of three core requirements and six academic subject
12 areas with final examinations that prepare students, 16 to 19
13 years of age, for higher education and life in a global society.

14 "Public institution of higher education." A community
15 college or an institution which is part of the State System of
16 Higher Education pursuant to Article XX-A.

17 "Public school." Any of the following:

18 (1) A school district.

19 (2) An intermediate unit.

20 (3) An area vocational-technical school.

21 (4) A charter school, as defined in section 1703-A.

22 (5) A regional charter school, as defined in section
23 1703-A.

24 (6) A cyber charter school, as defined in section 1703-
25 A.

26 "Rural regional college." A rural regional college operating
27 under Article XIX-G.

28 "State-related institution." The Pennsylvania State
29 University, the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University,
30 Lincoln University and their branch campuses.

31 "Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee." The
32 committee established under section 2004-C.
33 Section 2003-C. Duties of [public] institutions of higher
34 education and [State-related institutions] public
35 schools.

36 (a) Agreements.--Each [public] institution of higher
37 education and [State-related institution] public school shall
38 provide the Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee and
39 the department with copies of all articulation agreements for
40 inclusion in the electronic database or software program and
41 portal provided for under section 2005-C(4) within 180 days of
42 the effective date of this section and within 30 days of
43 entering into any subsequent articulation agreement.

44 (b) Reporting requirements.--The following shall apply to
45 reporting requirements:

46 (1) Each [public] institution of higher education [and
47 State-related institution] shall submit to the department a
48 series of interim reports that describe the status of the
49 institution's articulation agreements, which shall include
50 all of the following:

51 (i) The number of students who have transferred to

1 the [public] institution of higher education [or State-
2 related institution] by institution of origin within the
3 last academic year or since submittal of the
4 institution's last interim report required under this
5 section.

6 (ii) The total number of credits completed by
7 transfer students at the institution of origin.

8 (iii) The total number of credits from each
9 institution of origin that transferred to the [public]
10 institution of higher education [or State-related
11 institution] for each academic year.

12 (iv) An explanation of the credit transfer process
13 at the institution.

14 (v) Any other information related to the credit
15 transfer process as requested by the department,
16 including the useability of transfer credits.

17 (2) Each [public] institution of higher education [and
18 State-related institution] shall submit its first interim
19 report required under this section 180 days after the
20 effective date of this section and by September 30 of each
21 year thereafter.

22 Section 7. Section 2004-C(a)(1) introductory paragraph is
23 amended and subsection (c) is amended by adding a paragraph to
24 read:

25 Section 2004-C. Transfer and Articulation Oversight Committee.

26 (a) Establishment and membership.--

27 (1) In order to develop and implement equivalency
28 standards as provided for in subsection (c)(1) and provide
29 access to articulation agreements, there is hereby
30 established within the department, the Transfer and
31 Articulation Oversight Committee. The committee shall be
32 comprised of the following members:

33 * * *

34 (c) Duties of Transfer and Articulation Oversight
35 Committee.--The committee shall:

36 * * *

37 (7) Meet on a regular basis at least quarterly.

38 Section 8. Section 2005-C(4) of the act is amended to read:

39 Section 2005-C. Duties of department.

40 The department shall:

41 * * *

42 (4) Provide for an electronic database or software
43 program and portal for the purpose of providing access to all
44 of the following information on an Internet website:

45 (i) Articulation agreements and agreements that
46 award credit for an industry-recognized credential
47 entered into by [public institutions of higher education
48 and institutions that elect to participate under section
49 2006-C.] institutions of higher education, public schools
50 and institutions described under clause (C). The
51 following apply:

1 (A) The department shall extract transfer
2 information from each articulation agreement and each
3 agreement that awards credit for an industry-
4 recognized credential and enter the information into
5 the electronic database or software program and
6 portal and provide a meaningful, user-friendly and
7 interactive search engine for access to the
8 information.

9 (B) The department shall, within 60 days of
10 receiving an articulation agreement or agreement that
11 awards credit for an industry-recognized credential,
12 update the database and post each articulation
13 agreement and each agreement that awards credit for
14 an industry-recognized credential on its publicly
15 accessible Internet website.

16 (C) An institution which is not subject to the
17 duties under section 2003-C may submit to the
18 department any articulation agreement or agreement
19 that awards credit for an industry-recognized
20 credential into which the institution enters. Each
21 submitted articulation agreement and each agreement
22 that awards credit for an industry-recognized
23 credential shall be subject to this paragraph.

24 (ii) The annual report to the General Assembly as
25 required by section 2004-C(c) (5).

26 [(iii) At the request of a public institution of
27 higher education or an institution that elects to
28 participate under section 2006-C, any articulation
29 agreements.]

30 Section 9. This act shall take effect in 60 days.