

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 296 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY HAYWOOD, FONTANA, SANTARSIERO, KANE, TARTAGLIONE,
DILLON, BREWSTER, CAPPELLETTI, BOSCOLA AND COLLETT,
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 moment of silence on January 6 anniversary.

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 1555. Moment of Silence on January 6 Anniversary.--

13 (a) Each school entity shall conduct a moment of silence during
14 instructional hours for students and faculty to observe the
15 anniversary of January 6, 2021, as a remembrance of the
16 individuals who lost their lives or were wounded by
17 insurrectionist attacks on that date.

18 (b) The Department of Education shall establish a model
19 curriculum for instruction in the events and significance of

1 January 6, 2021, no later than twelve (12) months after the
2 effective date of this section. The model curriculum shall
3 include, but not be limited to, all of the following where
4 appropriate:

5 (1) The historical context of the January 6 attacks.

6 (2) The insurrectionist attacks on the United States
7 Capitol.

8 (3) United States Government response to the attacks.

9 (4) Challenges and consequences in a post-January 6 world.

10 (c) The Department of Education shall make available on the
11 department's publicly accessible Internet website curriculum
12 materials and other available resources regarding the events and
13 significance of January 6, 2021, for voluntary use by school
14 entities.

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

19 (e) For purposes of this section, the term "school entity"
20 shall mean a school district, charter school, regional charter
21 school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit or area career
22 and technical school.

23 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.