

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 137 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY GODSHALL, DONATUCCI, J. EVANS, FAIRCHILD, GEIST, GIBBONS, GROVE, HARHAI, KILLION, KORTZ, LONGIETTI, MANN, MELIO, MICOZZIE, MILLER, MURT, O'NEILL, PAYNE, PEIFER, PICKETT, RAPP, REICHLEY, ROCK, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, VULAKOVICH AND FLECK, JANUARY 30, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JANUARY 30, 2009

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," further providing for Office for Safe
6 Schools.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1302-A(c) of the act of March 10, 1949
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
11 amended July 9, 2008 (P.L.846, No.61), is amended to read:

12 Section 1302-A. Office for Safe Schools.--* * *

13 (c) In addition to the powers and duties set forth under
14 subsection (a), the office is authorized to make targeted grants
15 to schools to fund programs which address school violence,
16 including, but not limited to, the following programs:

17 (1) Conflict resolution or dispute management.

18 (2) Peer helpers programs.

(3) Risk assessment, safety-related or violence prevention curricula.

(4) Classroom management.

(5) Student codes of conduct.

(6) Training to undertake a districtwide assessment of risk factors that increase the likelihood of problem behaviors among students.

(7) Development and implementation of research-based violence prevention programs that address risk factors to reduce incidents of problem behaviors among students including, but not limited to, bullying.

(8) Comprehensive, districtwide school safety and violence prevention plans.

(9) Security planning, purchase of security-related technology which may include silent alert buttons, metal detectors, protective lighting, surveillance equipment, special emergency communications equipment, electronic locksets, deadbolts and theft control devices and training in the use of security-related technology. Security planning and purchase of security-related technology shall be based on safety needs identified by the school entity's board of directors.

(10) Institution of student, staff and visitor identification systems.

(11) Establishment or enhancement of school security personnel, including school resource officers.

(12) Provision of specialized staff and student training programs, including training for Student Assistance Program team members in elementary, middle and high schools in the referral of students at risk of violent behavior to appropriate community-based services, including mental health services.

1 (13) Alternative education programs provided for in Article
2 XIX-C.

3 (14) Counseling services for students enrolled in
4 alternative education programs.

5 * * *

6 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.