

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 970 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY SAYLOR, GRUCELA, S. H. SMITH, CLYMER, MILLER, O'NEILL, FLECK, METCALFE, MILNE, MURT, QUIGLEY, RAPP, TALLMAN, McILVAINE SMITH, LONGIETTI, M. O'BRIEN, PALLONE, ADOLPH, ARGALL, BAKER, BEAR, BEYER, BRIGGS, BROOKS, BUXTON, CALTAGIRONE, CAUSER, CIVERA, D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, CUTLER, DALLY, DENLINGER, DIGIROLAMO, DRUCKER, EVERETT, FREEMAN, GEIST, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRELL, GROVE, HARHART, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, HORNAMAN, HUTCHINSON, KAUFFMAN, M. KELLER, KILLION, KORTZ, KOTIK, MARKOSEK, MARSHALL, MELIO, MENSCH, MICOZZIE, MOUL, MUSTIO, OBERLANDER, PASHINSKI, PEIFER, PETRI, PICKETT, QUINN, REICHLEY, ROAE, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SIPTROTH, M. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STERN, STEVENSON, SWANGER, J. TAYLOR, R. TAYLOR, TRUE, TURZAI, VITALI, VULAKOVICH AND WATSON, MARCH 17, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 17, 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," in State Board of Education, further
6 providing for powers and duties of board and for cooperation
7 between the board and the Department of Education.

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

10 Section 1. Section 2603-B of the act of March 10, 1949
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
12 amended by adding a subsection to read:

13 Section 2603-B. Powers and Duties of the Board.--* * *

14 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, act

1 or law to the contrary, the board may not adopt any standard or
2 regulation to require school districts to adopt high school
3 graduation requirements or implement a new series of Statewide
4 competency assessments and related support services unless
5 express authority to do so is enacted after the effective date
6 of this subsection.

7 Section 2. Section 2606-B of the act, added March 30, 1988
8 (P.L.321, No.43), is amended to read:

9 Section 2606-B. Cooperation Between the Board and the
10 Department of Education.--(a) Statements of policy, standards,
11 rules and regulations promulgated by the board shall be binding
12 upon the Department of Education. The department shall submit to
13 the board for approval, modification or rejection, all rules and
14 regulations proposed by the department in the areas under the
15 control of the board. The Department of Education shall furnish
16 upon request of the board such data and information as the board
17 may, from time to time, require, and the department shall
18 provide administrative services for and on behalf of the board
19 for the implementation of the board's statements of policy,
20 standards, rules and regulations.

21 (b) No funds from any source shall be expended for the
22 development of a new system of high school graduation
23 requirements which may include a series of graduation competency
24 assessments as provided under section 2603-B(1) unless express
25 authority for such requirements is enacted after the effective
26 date of this subsection.

27 Section 3. This act shall apply retroactively to January 1,
28 2008.

29 Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.