

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 912 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY WAUGH, FONTANA AND EICHELBERGER, MARCH 30, 2011

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 30, 2011

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 professional employees, further  
6 providing for definitions; and providing for school social  
7 workers.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1101(1) of the act of March 10, 1949  
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
12 amended November 30, 1971 (P.L.546, No.144), is amended to read:

13 Section 1101. Definitions.--As used in this article,

14 (1) The term "professional employe" shall include those who  
15 are certificated as teachers, supervisors, supervising  
16 principals, principals, assistant principals, vice-principals,  
17 directors of vocational education, dental hygienists, visiting  
18 teachers, home and school visitors, school social workers,  
19 school counselors, child nutrition program specialists, school  
20 librarians, school secretaries the selection of whom is on the  
21 basis of merit as determined by eligibility lists and school

1 nurses.

2 \* \* \*

3 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

4 Section 1107.1. School Social Workers.--(a) A school entity  
5 that employs a school social worker must employ a person who  
6 holds a current license issued by the Department of State as a  
7 licensed social worker or licensed clinical social worker and  
8 who holds an educational specialist certificate for a school  
9 social worker issued by the Department of Education.

10 (b) The requirements of subsection (a) shall not apply when  
11 the individual:

12 (1) meets the exception for a school social worker as set  
13 forth in section 20 of the act of July 9, 1987 (P.L.220, No.39),  
14 known as the "Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and  
15 Professional Counselors Act"; or

16 (2) is employed as a school social worker in a public or  
17 private school in this Commonwealth prior to 120 days after the  
18 effective date of this section.

19 (c) A certified school social worker performing services in  
20 a school entity may work under the supervision of a  
21 superintendent, assistant superintendent or other school  
22 administrator or employe as determined by the school entity.

23 (d) The Department of Education shall develop a school  
24 social worker category within the educational specialist  
25 certificate no later than 120 days after the effective date of  
26 this section.

27 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 90 days.