

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1610 Session of 2012

INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS, STACK, YUDICHAK AND FERLO,
OCTOBER 10, 2012

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, OCTOBER 10, 2012

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," providing for assessments for
6 scholarship recipients.

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 122. Assessments for Scholarship Recipients.--(a)
13 For each nonpublic school admitting scholarship recipients
14 receiving scholarships under a program established under this
15 act, a program established under Article XVII-F or Article XVII-
16 G.1 of the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the "Tax
17 Reform Code of 1971," or a program established under any other
18 act of this Commonwealth, the following shall apply:

19 (1) (i) Each nonpublic school shall administer annually an
20 assessment or a nationally normed standardized achievement test

1 in reading/language arts and mathematics to each scholarship
2 recipient attending the nonpublic school in grades three, five,
3 eight and eleven.

4 (ii) To comply with this clause, a nonpublic school may
5 either administer an assessment or administer a nationally
6 normed standardized achievement test chosen by the nonpublic
7 school from a list established under clause (2).

8 (2) The Department of Education shall establish a list of at
9 least eight nationally normed standardized achievement tests
10 from which the nonpublic school shall select a test to be
11 administered if the nonpublic school does not choose to
12 administer an assessment.

13 (3) Each nonpublic school shall:

14 (i) Release each scholarship recipient's individual results
15 on the assessment or nationally normed standardized achievement
16 test administered to scholarship recipients under clause (1) to
17 the parent of the scholarship recipient.

18 (ii) If the nonpublic school has a publicly accessible
19 Internet website, post on the Internet website the nonpublic
20 school's aggregate results on the assessment or nationally
21 normed standardized achievement test administered to scholarship
22 recipients under clause (1), provided that the nonpublic school
23 shall not post results that reveal the identity of any
24 individual student.

25 (4) The nonpublic school shall bear the cost of the testing
26 administered under this section and shall not impose an
27 assessment or testing fee on a scholarship recipient.

28 (5) The Department of Education may not require a nonpublic
29 school to provide individual or aggregate results of the testing
30 administered under this section other than as prescribed in

1 clause (3).

2 (b) As used in this section, "assessment" shall mean the
3 Pennsylvania System of School Assessment test, the Keystone
4 Exam, an equivalent local assessment or another test established
5 by the State Board of Education to meet the requirements of
6 section 2603-B(d)(10)(i) of this act and required under the No
7 Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-110, 115 Stat.
8 1425) or its successor statute or any other test required to
9 achieve other standards established by the Department of
10 Education for the public school or school district under 22 Pa.
11 Code § 403.3 (relating to single accountability system).

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.