
 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1424 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY CLYMER, TURZAI, BARRAR, KOTIK, V. BROWN, O'BRIEN,
O'NEILL, STEPHENS, MCGEEHAN, KORTZ, PARKER, PETRI,
SCHLOSSBERG, COHEN, RAPP, YOUNGBLOOD, DENLINGER, ROCK,
GINGRICH, GOODMAN, MAHONEY, PAINTER, MICOZZIE, WATSON, HESS,
GROVE, FLECK, MURT, TALLMAN, DAVIS, NEILSON, SIMS,
OBERLANDER, FRANKEL, CALTAGIRONE AND BRADFORD, MAY 23, 2013

SENATOR CORMAN, APPROPRIATIONS, RE-REPORTED AS AMENDED, DECEMBER
9, 2013

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 Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations
7 instruction.

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

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

13 Section 1554. Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights
14 Violations Instruction.--(a) (1) Beginning with school year
15 2015-2016, each school entity may SHALL offer instruction in the <--
16 Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations to students. If <--
17 offered by the school entity, the. THE instruction shall be <--

1 integrated within the social studies and language arts courses
2 of study required in accordance with State Board of Education
3 regulations. Instruction may also be integrated into other
4 appropriate courses of study.

5 (2) The Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations
6 instruction permitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall:

7 (i) Be age appropriate.

8 (ii) Be sequential in method of study.

9 (iii) Communicate the connection between national, ethnic,
10 racial or religious intolerance and the subjects described in
11 subsection (b).

12 (iv) Communicate the impact of personal responsibility,
13 civic engagement and societal response within the context of the
14 subjects described in subsection (b).

15 (3) School entities may utilize any appropriate public or
16 private materials, personnel and other resources in developing
17 and implementing the program of instruction permitted pursuant
18 to paragraph (1). The Department of Education shall make
19 available information about appropriate curriculum materials
20 upon request of a school entity. School entities that offer the <--
21 instruction permitted pursuant to paragraph (1) may utilize any
22 curriculum that complies with the requirements of this
23 subsection.

24 (b) (1) The Department of Education shall establish
25 curriculum guidelines no later than twelve (12) months after the
26 effective date of this section. The guidelines shall encourage
27 the inclusion of all of the following subjects where appropriate
28 in the instruction:

29 (i) The breadth of the history of the Holocaust, including
30 the Third Reich dictatorship, concentration camp system,

1 persecution of Jews and non-Jews, Jewish and non-Jewish
2 resistance and post-World War II trials.

3 (ii) The definition, history, response and actions taken in
4 the face of genocide, including the Holocaust and any other
5 genocide perpetrated against humanity.

6 (iii) Human rights violations.

7 (iv) Anti-Semitism, racism and the abridgment of civil
8 rights.

9 (2) The Department of Education may work in consultation
10 with organizations that provide educational resources related to
11 the Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations to develop
12 the curriculum guidelines.

13 (c) Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, the Department
14 of Education shall make available, to all school entities, in-
15 service training programs based upon the instruction permitted <--
16 REQUIRED pursuant to subsection (a) and the curriculum <--
17 guidelines established pursuant to subsection (b).

18 (d) (1) Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, each
19 school entity that offers the instruction permitted pursuant to <--
20 subsection (a) shall provide, as part of its in-service
21 training, programs on the Holocaust, genocide and human rights
22 violations for all instructors whose teaching responsibilities
23 include courses of study in which instruction concerning the
24 Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations is integrated. A
25 school entity may utilize the programs made available by the
26 Department of Education or use other alternative programs that
27 are consistent with the provisions of this section.

28 (2) Employees required to complete continuing professional
29 education under section 1205.2 shall receive credit toward the
30 continuing professional education requirements where the

1 training program provided pursuant to paragraph (1) has been
2 approved by the Department of Education.

3 (e) The Department of Education shall provide the
4 guidelines, in-service training and any other materials
5 developed in accordance with this section to any nonpublic
6 school within this Commonwealth upon receiving a request from
7 the nonpublic school.

8 (f) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules and
9 regulations necessary for the implementation of this section
10 pursuant to the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181), known as
11 the "Regulatory Review Act."

12 (g) For purposes of this section, the term "school entity"
13 shall mean a school district, charter school, regional charter
14 school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit or area
15 vocational-technical school.

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