

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILLNo. **267** Session of
2013INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, TARTAGLIONE, SCHWANK, BREWSTER, FERLO,
SMUCKER, SOLOBAY AND WAUGH, JANUARY 18, 2013

SENATOR FOLMER, EDUCATION, AS AMENDED, FEBRUARY 12, 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 pupils and attendance, further
6 providing for excuses from attending school; and making an
7 editorial change.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1329 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.
11 30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, amended
12 June 22, 2001 (P.L.530, No.35), is amended to read:

13 Section 1329. Excuses from Attending School.--(a) The board
14 of school directors of any school district may, upon
15 certification by any licensed practitioner of the healing arts
16 or upon any other satisfactory evidence being furnished to it,
17 showing that any child or children are prevented from attending
18 school, or from application to study, on account of any mental,
19 physical, ~~educational~~ or other urgent reasons, excuse such child <--
20 or children from attending school as required by the provisions

1 of this act, but the term "urgent reasons" shall be strictly
2 construed and shall not permit of irregular attendance. In every
3 such case, such action by the board of school directors shall
4 not be final until the approval of the [Department of Public
5 Instruction] Department of Education has been obtained. Every
6 principal or teacher in any public, private, or other school
7 may, for reasons enumerated above, excuse any child for non-
8 attendance during temporary periods.

9 (A.1) A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY EXCUSE A STUDENT FROM SCHOOL <--
10 ATTENDANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN A NONSCHOOL-DISTRICT-SPONSORED
11 EDUCATIONAL TOUR OR TRIP CONSISTENT WITH STATE BOARD OF
12 EDUCATION REGULATIONS.

13 (b) Pursuant to the requirements of 22 Pa. Code § 11.41
14 (relating to school district policies and rules), the board of
15 school directors shall formally adopt, as part of its written
16 rules governing pupil absences and excusals, a policy permitting
17 a student to be excused for participation in a project sponsored
18 by an organization that is eligible to apply for a grant under
19 section 5(3) of the act of July 8, 1986 (P.L.437, No.92), known
20 as the "Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair Act."

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