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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 921 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY BARRAR, BRIGGS, R. BROWN, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE,  
CHARLTON, D. COSTA, CUTLER, DALEY, DEAN, DeLUCA, DIAMOND,  
DRISCOLL, EVERETT, FARRY, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GABLER, JAMES,  
KIM, KNOWLES, KORTZ, MACKENZIE, MAHER, MARSICO, MURT, MUSTIO,  
PASHINSKI, PEIFER, RADER, ROZZI, RYAN, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHWEYER,  
STAATS, STEPHENS, WARD, WARNER, WATSON AND ZIMMERMAN,  
MAY 23, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 23, 2017

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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 cardiopulmonary resuscitation and for  
7 cardiopulmonary resuscitation in schools.

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 sections  
12 to read:

13 Section 1528. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.--(a) The State  
14 Board of Education and the Department of Education shall work in  
15 consultation with the American Heart Association and American  
16 Red Cross to further develop the existing academic standards for  
17 cardiopulmonary resuscitation instruction for students in grades  
18 nine through 12. The Department of Education shall:

1 (i) Further develop the existing academic standards for  
2 cardiopulmonary resuscitation instruction no later than twenty-  
3 four (24) months after the effective date of this section.

4 (ii) Provide the enhanced academic standards and other  
5 materials developed to a nonpublic school within this  
6 Commonwealth upon receiving request from the nonpublic school.

7 (b) The academic standards shall be amended to include the  
8 following:

9 (i) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation shall be defined as "a  
10 first aid technique utilizing hands-only compressions of the  
11 chest used to revive a person whose heart has stopped beating."

12 (ii) The following phrases shall be added and defined:

13 (A) Assessment of cardiac arrest.

14 (B) Psychomotor skills.

15 (C) Application of hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

16 Section 1529. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation in Schools.--(a)  
17 School instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation as under  
18 academic standards and under section 1528 shall include the  
19 following:

20 (i) An instructional program developed by the American Heart  
21 Association, the American Red Cross or another program that is  
22 nationally recognized and is based on the most current American  
23 Heart Association or American Red Cross guidelines for  
24 cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency cardiovascular care.

25 (ii) The psychomotor skills necessary to perform  
26 cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

27 (iii) Information on the purpose of an automated external  
28 defibrillator.

29 (b) The instruction may be integrated into an appropriate  
30 course of study. A teacher, instructor or community volunteer

1 may provide, facilitate or oversee the instruction and is not  
2 required to be a certified cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
3 trainer.

4 (c) If a pupil is unable to perform the psychomotor skill  
5 component of the instruction, or upon written request of the  
6 pupil's parent or guardian, a pupil shall be excused from taking  
7 the instruction under this section.

8 (d) Employees who complete continuing professional education  
9 under section 1205.4 in regards to cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
10 and first aid training shall receive credit under section 1205.2  
11 if the training has been approved by the Department of  
12 Education.

13 (e) As used in this section, the following words and phrases  
14 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless  
15 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

16 "Psychomotor skills." The use of hands-on practice to  
17 support cognitive learning.

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