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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2498 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY FARRY, CHARLTON, JAMES, MURT, DEAN, SCHLOSSBERG,  
BARRAR, ENGLISH, DRISCOLL, BOBACK, SAYLOR, WARD, HILL-EVANS,  
WATSON, TOOHIL, WHEELAND AND M. QUINN, JUNE 18, 2018

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 18, 2018

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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 safe schools, providing for the  
6 Safe-To-Tell Program.

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 1312.1-A. Safe-To-Tell Program.--(a) The  
13 Pennsylvania State Police shall establish and administer the  
14 Safe-To-Tell Program in accordance with this section.

15 (b) The program shall provide for the following:

16 (1) Methods of reporting unsafe, potentially harmful,  
17 dangerous, violent or criminal activity in a school entity or  
18 nonpublic school.

19 (2) Methods to ensure that the identity of an individual

1 making a report under paragraph (1) remains anonymous, unless  
2 the individual voluntarily discloses the individual's identity  
3 to a law enforcement official, an employe implementing the  
4 program or a school official.

5 (3) Annual training seminars for law enforcement officials,  
6 dispatch centers, school entities, nonpublic schools and other  
7 entities as determined by the Pennsylvania State Police on  
8 appropriate awareness and response measures to a report under  
9 paragraph (1) and relevant informational literature to attendees  
10 of the seminars at no cost.

11 (4) On or before June 30, 2019, and annually each school  
12 year thereafter, education and informational literature about  
13 the program to all school entities and nonpublic schools.

14 (c) The recipient of a report under subsection (b)(1) shall  
15 notify the appropriate law enforcement agency, public safety  
16 agency or school official in a timely manner. Materials in the  
17 report under subsection (b)(1), including any records, claims,  
18 writings, documents or information relating to the materials,  
19 shall not be subject to the act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6,  
20 No.3), known as the "Right-to-Know Law," and shall not be  
21 disclosed during a meeting open to the public under 65 Pa.C.S.  
22 Ch. 7 (relating to open meetings).

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