
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2814 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY KNOWLES, TOPPER, MILLARD, BERNSTINE, HERSHEY AND
COX, AUGUST 21, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, AUGUST 21, 2020

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 school health services, providing
6 for face coverings for certain students.

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 1425. Face Coverings for Certain Students.--(a)
13 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, for the 2020-2021
14 school year, the governing authority of a school entity shall
15 determine whether a face covering is required for students in
16 pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

17 (b) If the governing authority of a school entity determines
18 that a face covering is required under subsection (a), the
19 governing authority of the school entity shall develop a policy
20 including the circumstances students may remove their face

1 coverings.

2 (c) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
3 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

4 "Face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that
5 is secured to the head with ties, straps or loops over the ears
6 or is wrapped around the lower face or a face shield.

7 "Private academic nursery school" means a nursery school
8 licensed or exempt from licensure under the act of January 28,
9 1988 (P.L.24, No.11), known as the "Private Academic Schools
10 Act."

11 "School entity" means a school district, intermediate unit,
12 career and technical center, charter school, regional charter
13 school, cyber charter school, nonpublic or private school, Pre-K
14 Counts program, Head Start program, early intervention program
15 or private academic nursery school.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.