

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2024 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY KAUFER, SCHLOSSBERG, CIRESI AND OTTEN,
MARCH 9, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 9, 2022

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 mental health instruction study.

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 1555. Mental Health Instruction Study.--(a) The
13 State Board of Education shall conduct a study regarding the
14 manner in which instruction in mental health is offered by
15 school entities in this Commonwealth.

16 (b) In conducting the study under this section, the State
17 Board of Education shall request that each school entity provide
18 the State Board of Education with information concerning whether
19 the school entity offers instruction in mental health and the
20 manner in which the instruction is offered.

1 (c) Each school entity shall provide information to the
2 State Board of Education in response to a request under this
3 section.

4 (d) The following shall apply to the report of the State
5 Board of Education:

6 (1) Following the 2020-2021 school year, but not later than
7 November 30, 2021, the State Board of Education shall issue a
8 report to the following:

9 (i) The Governor.

10 (ii) The Secretary of Education.

11 (iii) The chairperson and minority chairperson of the
12 Education Committee of the Senate.

13 (iv) The chairperson and minority chairperson of the
14 Education Committee of the House of Representatives.

15 (2) The report must address the following:

16 (i) The number of school entities offering instruction in
17 mental health.

18 (ii) A description of the manner in which school entities
19 are offering instruction in mental health, including the number
20 of hours of instruction offered, the grade levels at which the
21 instruction is offered, the course within which the instruction
22 is integrated and the job title of individuals delivering
23 instruction.

24 (iii) The recommendations for improvements to the offering
25 of instruction in mental health, including recommended
26 legislation.

27 (e) For purposes of this section, the term "school entity"
28 shall mean a school district, charter school, regional charter
29 school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit or area career
30 and technical school.

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