

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 instruction in observance of the birthday of
7 the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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 a
12 section to read:

13 Section 1555. Instruction in Observance of the Birthday of
14 the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.--(a) Beginning with the
15 2015-2016 school year, each school entity shall provide
16 instruction on the life and work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther
17 King, Jr., to students during the week of the third Monday in
18 January in observance of the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin
19 Luther King, Jr. This instruction shall be designed to
20 communicate to students the profound legacy of the Rev. Dr.

1 Martin Luther King, Jr., his commitment to social justice and
2 his contributions to racial equality.

3 (b) The instruction required under subsection (a) may be
4 offered as a separate instructional activity or may be
5 integrated into an appropriate course of study.

6 (c) School entities may utilize any appropriate public or
7 private materials, personnel or other resources in developing
8 and implementing the instruction required under subsection (a).

9 (d) The Department of Education shall:

10 (1) Make available to school entities teacher curriculum
11 materials and other available resources related to the life and
12 work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the history of the
13 American Civil Rights Movement and the movement's impact in the
14 United States.

15 (2) Post the materials made available to school entities
16 under paragraph (1) on its publicly accessible Internet website
17 within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this section.

18 (e) For the purposes of this section, the term "school
19 entity" shall mean a school district, charter school, regional
20 charter school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit or area
21 vocational-technical school.

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