THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 221   Session of 1991

INTRODUCED BY BATTISTO, COWELL, LANGTRY, COLAFELLA,
E. Z. TAYLOR, ARGALL, TIGUE, TRELLO, GEIST, STISH, MIHALICH,
JOSEPHS, TANGRETTI, PISTELLA, VAN HORNE, DALEY, BELARDI,
SCHULER, LINTON, PERZEL, CAPPABIANCA, HERMAN, ROEBUCK,
STABACK, SAURMAN, WOGAN, HAYDEN, LESCOVITZ, FREEMAN, NAHILL,
D. R. WRIGHT, COY, MELIO, PRESTON, OLASZ, CAWLEY, BUNT,
JOHNSON, ITKIN, ALLEN, PETRARCA, LAUGHLIN, CORRIGAN, McCALL,
WOZNIAK, SEMMEL AND BROUJOS, FEBRUARY 4, 1991

SENATOR RHOADES, EDUCATION, IN SENATE, JULY 16, 1991

AN ACT

1 Providing for the establishment of a summer foreign language
2   academy program for secondary school students throughout this
3   Commonwealth; and providing for powers and duties of the
4   Department of Education.

5   The General Assembly finds and declares that, due to the

6 demands of a very competitive world economy and vast

7 governmental changes in Europe along with the rapid advances in

8 telecommunications systems worldwide, it is necessary to be able

9 to communicate with people of diverse cultures in order to

10 successfully survive in a global economy. The youth of Europe,

11 Asia and Africa are often fluent in several languages, whereas

12 the vast majority of American students speak and write only

13 English.

14   The Commonwealth, through the Department of Education, has a

1 commitment to the students of Pennsylvania to prepare them to

 2 meet the challenges of the future.

 3   It is the intention of the General Assembly in enacting this

 4 act to require the Department of Education to ~~establish~~ EXPAND   <—

 5 THE CURRENT SUMMER INTENSIVE LANGUAGE PROGRAM INTO a Statewide

 6 system of summer foreign language academies which will provide

 7 students with concentrated instruction in certain foreign

 8 languages and acquaint them with diverse cultures.

 9   The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Short title.

12   This act shall be known and may be cited as the Foreign

13 Languages Academies Act.

14 Section 2. Definitions.

15   The following words and phrases when used in this act shall

16 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

17 context clearly indicates otherwise:

18   "Department." The Department of Education of the

19 Commonwealth.

20   "Student." A person who is enrolled in a public or private

21 secondary school in this Commonwealth and has completed the 9th,

22 10th or 11th grade.

23 Section 3. Powers and duties of department.

24   (a) Establishment of program.--The department shall

25 establish a summer foreign language academy ~~program~~ GRANT   <—

26 PROGRAM UTILIZING FEDERAL EDUCATION FUNDS AND MATCHING GRANTS

27 for students in this Commonwealth. To the greatest extent

28 possible, the ~~department shall work with the universities and~~   <—

29 ~~colleges within the State System of Higher Education, State~~

30 ~~related universities, local school districts, intermediate~~

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1 ~~units, teachers and administrators to develop the administrative~~

2 ~~and academic portions of the program.~~ DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH   <——

3 GUIDELINES FOR THE PROGRAMS WHICH INVOLVE THE UNIVERSITIES AND

4 COLLEGES, LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND INTERMEDIATE UNITS. Those

5 students who are to participate in the program shall be selected

6 by the local school districts.

7   (b) Commencement of program.--At least one summer foreign

8 language academy shall be in operation WITHIN EACH INTERMEDIATE   <——

9 UNIT by the summer of 1993.

10 ~~Section 4. Guidelines.~~   <——

11 ~~The department shall, in the manner prescribed by law,~~

12 ~~establish the guidelines necessary to carry out this act.~~

13 Section ~~5~~ 4. Annual report.   <——

14   The department shall prepare an annual report of the summer

15 foreign language academies program which shall be submitted to

16 the Governor, the EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE Senate and the   <——

17 EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE House of Representatives.   <——

18 Section ~~6~~ 5. Effective date.   <——

19   This act shall take effect immediately.