

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2087 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY DAY, STAATS, KAVULICH, D. COSTA, V. BROWN, ROZZI, WARD, READSHAW, FARINA, HAHN, GERGELY, DONATUCCI, KINSEY, SIMMONS, RADER, HARHAI, SCHWEYER, KORTZ, MARSICO, COHEN, PEIFER, WATSON, ZIMMERMAN, DeLUCA, DIAMOND, ELLIS, TRUITT, O'NEILL, QUIGLEY, GROVE, REESE, BARRAR, ORTITAY, TOOHL, R. BROWN AND MICCARELLI, MAY 23, 2016

AS AMENDED ON SECOND CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 8, 2016

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 further providing for fire and emergency evacuation drills.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 1517 of the act of March 10, 1949
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
11 amended January 14, 1970 (1969 P.L.468, No.192), is amended to
12 read:

13 Section 1517. Fire and Emergency Evacuation Drills.--(a)
14 [In] Except as provided under subsection (a.1), in all [public
15 schools] school buildings of school entities where fire-escapes,
16 appliances for the extinguishment of fires, or proper and
17 sufficient exits in case of fire or panic, either or all, are

1 required by law to be maintained, fire drills shall be
2 periodically conducted, not less than one a month, by the
3 teacher or teachers in charge, under rules and regulations to be
4 promulgated by the [district superintendent] chief school
5 administrator under whose supervision such [schools] school
6 entities are. In such fire drills the pupils and teachers shall
7 be instructed in, and made thoroughly familiar with, the use of
8 the fire-escapes, appliances and exits. The drill shall include
9 the actual use thereof, and the complete removal of the pupils
10 and teachers, in an expeditious and orderly manner, by means of
11 fire-escapes and exits, from the building to a place of safety
12 on the ground outside.

13 (a.1) Within 90 days of the commencement of the school year
14 after the effective date of this subsection and within 90 days
15 of the commencement of each school year thereafter, each school
16 entity shall conduct one school security drill per school year
17 in each school building in place of a fire drill required under
18 subsection (a). All of the following shall apply:

19 (1) The school security drill shall be conducted while the
20 school entity is in session and students are present under
21 policies adopted by the chief school administrator.

22 (2) The chief school administrator or a designee shall
23 oversee the instruction and training of students and school
24 employees in the procedures to be used in the school security
25 drill.

26 (3) The chief school administrator shall notify and request
27 assistance from the local law enforcement agency and emergency
28 management agency before conducting the school security drill.
29 The notification shall include, at a minimum, all of the
30 following:

- 1 (i) The date and time of the school security drill.
2 (ii) The name and address of the school entity and each
3 building in which the school security drill is to be conducted.
4 (iii) The name of the individual in charge of conducting the
5 school security drill.

6 (4) THE CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE OF <--
7 THE SCHOOL SECURITY DRILL IN ADVANCE TO PARENTS AND LEGAL
8 GUARDIANS OF THE STUDENTS ATTENDING THE SCHOOL BUILDING FOR
9 WHICH THE SCHOOL SECURITY DRILL IS SCHEDULED.

10 (b) [District superintendents] Chief school administrators
11 are hereby required to see that the provisions of this section
12 are faithfully carried out in the [schools] school entities over
13 which they have charge.

14 (c) Any person who violates or fails to comply with the
15 provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and
16 on conviction shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than
17 twenty-five dollars (\$25) nor more than five hundred dollars
18 (\$500), or to undergo imprisonment in the county jail for not
19 less than (10) days or more than sixty (60) days, or both.

20 (d) All [schools] school entities using or contracting for
21 school buses for the transportation of school children shall
22 conduct on school grounds two emergency evacuation drills on
23 buses during each school year, the first to be conducted during
24 the first week of the first school term and the second during
25 the month of March, and at such other times as the chief school
26 administrator may require. Each such drill shall include the
27 practice and instruction concerning the location, use and
28 operation of emergency exit doors and fire extinguishers and the
29 proper evacuation of buses in the event of fires or accidents.

30 Bus operators shall be provided with proper training and

1 instructions to enable them to carry out the provisions of this
2 subsection and may be required to attend classes and drills in
3 connection therewith.

4 (e) On or before the tenth day of April of each year, each
5 [district superintendent] chief school administrator shall
6 certify to the Department of [Public Instruction] Education that
7 the emergency evacuation drills and school security drills
8 herein required have been [held] conducted in accordance with
9 this section.

10 (f) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
11 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

12 "Chief school administrator" shall mean the superintendent of
13 a school district, superintendent of an area vocational-
14 technical school, executive director of an intermediate unit or
15 chief executive officer of a charter school or regional charter
16 school.

17 "School entity" shall mean area vocational-technical school,
18 a school district, an intermediate unit, a charter school or a
19 regional charter school.

20 "School security drill" shall mean a planned exercise, other
21 than a fire drill or natural disaster drill, designed to
22 practice procedures to respond to an emergency situation that
23 may include, but is not limited to, an act of terrorism, armed
24 intruder situation or other violent threat.

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