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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 186 Session of  
2001

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INTRODUCED BY ZUG, BENNINGHOFF, ALLEN, ARGALL, BARRAR, BEBKO-JONES, BELARDI, BELFANTI, BISHOP, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAPPABIANCA, CORRIGAN, DAILEY, DeWEESE, EGOLF, GABIG, GEIST, GEORGE, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HESS, LaGROTTA, LAUGHLIN, MANN, MARSICO, MICHLOVIC, R. MILLER, S. MILLER, NAILOR, ORIE, PETRARCA, PIPPY, PISTELLA, PRESTON, READSHAW, RUBLEY, SANTONI, SATHER, SHANER, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STABACK, STERN, E. Z. TAYLOR, TIGUE, WALKO, WASHINGTON, WOGAN, WOJNAROSKI, YEWIC, FREEMAN, EACHUS, TRICH, BROWNE, TRAVAGLIO, HABAY AND SAMUELSON, JANUARY 24, 2001

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SENATOR RHOADES, EDUCATION, IN SENATE, AS AMENDED, JUNE 11, 2001

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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," authorizing school districts to  
6 establish programs for awarding high school diplomas to  
7 certain military veterans.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1611 of the act of March 10, 1949  
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is  
12 amended to read:

13 Section 1611. Academic Degrees.--(a) The power to confer  
14 academic degrees, honorary or otherwise, heretofore granted to  
15 and possessed by any board of public education, board of school

1 directors, or controllers of any school district, on the  
2 eighteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred eleven, is  
3 hereby vested in the board of school directors of such school  
4 district as now constituted. Any public high school, in any  
5 school district, existing on the eighteenth day of May, one  
6 thousand nine hundred eleven, with a course of study of not less  
7 than four years, and upon whose students of the full prescribed  
8 course of study such academic or other degrees have heretofore  
9 been conferred, shall be continued by the board of school  
10 directors of the district in which it shall be located, under  
11 such name or title, with such regulations, and courses of study  
12 of such length and character, as the board may deem necessary.

13 (b) A school district shall have the power and BOARD OF <—  
14 SCHOOL DIRECTORS may establish a program to be known as  
15 "Operation Recognition" which provides for granting a high  
16 school diploma to any honorably discharged veteran who served in  
17 the United States military in World War II between the sixteenth  
18 day of September, one thousand nine hundred forty, and the  
19 thirty-first day of December, one thousand nine hundred forty-  
20 six, who attended high school between one thousand nine hundred  
21 thirty-seven and one thousand nine hundred forty-six and WHO <—  
22 would have been a member of a graduation class during the years  
23 one thousand nine hundred forty-one through one thousand nine  
24 hundred fifty but did not graduate from high school due to  
25 entering ENTRY INTO military service. A school district may <—  
26 establish an application and requirements to apply for awarding  
27 of a diploma in accordance with this section. A school district  
28 A BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS may award a diploma posthumously to <—  
29 an eligible veteran. AN APPLICATION FOR A DIPLOMA UNDER THIS <—  
30 SUBSECTION MUST BE MADE IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD OF

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS.

2       Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.