

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 856 Session of
2003

INTRODUCED BY BLAUM, GRUCELA, SOLOBAY, DeWEESE, HERMAN,
LAUGHLIN, LEDERER, CRUZ, HARHAI, LEACH, THOMAS, BELFANTI,
TIGUE, KIRKLAND, YOUNGBLOOD, GOODMAN, GEIST, JOSEPHS,
WASHINGTON, CIVERA, HORSEY, JAMES, REICHLEY AND WANSACZ,
MARCH 12, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 12, 2003

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," further providing for definitions and
6 for school police officers.

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

9 Section 1. Section 102 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30,
10 No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by
11 adding clauses to read:

12 Section 102. Definitions.--When used in this act the
13 following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

14 * * *

15 (7) "School resource officer" shall mean an officer
16 commissioned by a local law enforcement agency or county sheriff
17 department who is a certified law enforcement officer and whose
18 duty station is in a school.

1 (8) "School police officer" shall mean an officer employed
2 by a school district who has been granted powers under section
3 778(c)(2) or (3) or who has been authorized to carry a firearm,
4 or any combination thereof. The term does not include a school
5 resource officer, school security officer or attendance officer.

6 (9) "School security officer" shall mean a noncommissioned
7 officer employed by the school district or a vendor who is
8 assigned to a school for routine safety and security duties and
9 who has not been granted powers under section 778(c)(2) or (3)
10 and does not carry a firearm.

11 (10) "Attendance officer" shall mean an officer employed by
12 a school district who is granted power to enforce compulsory
13 school attendance laws.

14 Section 2. Section 778 of the act is amended by adding
15 subsections to read:

16 Section 778. School Police Officers.--* * *

17 (a.1) Any school district which employs a school police
18 officer under this section shall report annually to the
19 Department of Education, Office of Safe Schools, the following
20 information regarding school police officers receiving training
21 as required under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subch. D (relating to
22 municipal police education and training):

23 (1) The identity of the school district and the number of
24 school police officers it employs.

25 (2) The municipalities comprising the school district.

26 (3) The date and type of training provided to each school
27 police officer.

28 * * *

29 (b.1) Every school police officer must, before entering upon
30 the duties of his office, successfully complete training as set

1 forth in 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subch. D.

2 * * *

3 Section 3. This act shall take effect in one year.