

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 894 Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY SAYLOR, STAIRS, GRUCELA, FLEAGLE, HERMAN,  
R. MILLER, O'NEILL, SCAVELLO, SHANER, T. STEVENSON, BALDWIN,  
BELARDI, BELFANTI, BENNINGHOFF, BOYD, BUNT, BUXTON,  
CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CLYMER, CRAHALLA, DALEY, DALLY,  
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HENNESSEY, HERSHEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, HUTCHINSON, JAMES,  
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READSHAW, REICHLEY, RUBLEY, SAINATO, SATHER, SCHRODER,  
B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, STEIL, STERN, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR,  
TIGUE, WASHINGTON, WATSON, WILT AND YEWCIC, MARCH 14, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 14, 2005

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 program of  
6 continuing professional development.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1205.2(f) of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added  
11 November 23, 1999 (P.L.529, No.48), is amended and the section  
12 is amended by adding a subsection to read:

13 Section 1205.2. Program of Continuing Professional  
14 Education.--\* \* \*

(f) The department shall annually provide a minimum of forty (40) hours of continuing professional education courses, programs, activities or learning experiences at no charge to professional educators [employed by a school entity]. In providing these courses, the department shall seek to use the most efficient and cost-effective means possible, including the use of advanced technology such as CD-ROM, the Internet and distance communication.

\* \* \*

(k.1) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (k), the certificate of a professional educator who is an annuitant as defined in 24 Pa.C.S. § 8102 (relating to definitions) or 71 Pa.C.S. § 5102 (relating to definitions) shall be considered active for so long as the professional educator is an annuitant, except as otherwise provided in this subsection.

(2) For a professional educator annuitant who terminates the annuity or returns to school service under the provisions of 24 Pa.C.S. § 8346(b) (relating to termination of annuities) or whose annuity ceases under the provisions of 24 Pa.C.S. § 8346(b), the requirements of subsection (a) shall not apply for the first one hundred eighty (180) days for which the professional educator annuitant returns to school service.

(3) A professional educator annuitant who has returned to school service and who continues in school service for more than one hundred eighty (180) days shall fulfill the requirements of subsection (a) beginning with the one hundred eighty-first day for which the professional educator has returned to school service. Such professional educator shall have the same number of hours of continuing professional education and the same

1 amount of time to complete those hours as existed for the  
2 professional educator at the time the professional educator  
3 became an annuitant: Provided, that any collegiate studies,  
4 continuing professional education courses, or other programs,  
5 activities or learning experiences completed by a professional  
6 educator annuitant during the one hundred eighty (180) days for  
7 which the requirements of subsection (a) are not applicable  
8 under paragraph (2) shall be added to the number of hours of  
9 continuing professional education the professional educator had  
10 at the time the professional educator became an annuitant.

11 (4) The department shall promulgate a standard pursuant to  
12 the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the  
13 "Regulatory Review Act," requiring school entities to report the  
14 employment of professional educator annuitants subject to 24  
15 Pa.C.S. § 8346(b) and this subsection.

16 (5) The Public School Employees' Retirement System  
17 established pursuant to 24 Pa.C.S. Pt. IV (relating to  
18 retirement for school employees) shall adopt guidelines  
19 requiring school entities to report the employment under this  
20 subsection of annuitants subject to 24 Pa.C.S. § 8346(b).

21 \* \* \*

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