

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 792 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY BOSCOLA, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, ALLOWAY AND HUGHES,
APRIL 23, 2009

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, APRIL 23, 2009

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," providing for blood donation
6 education.

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

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

12 Section 1526. Blood Donation Education.--(a) The department
13 shall, in cooperation with the Department of Health:

14 (1) Establish a unit of instruction to educate students in
15 grades eleven and twelve regarding blood donation, to emphasize
16 the need for donated blood and to encourage blood donation and
17 participation in blood donation programs for students in grades
18 eleven and twelve.

19 (2) Develop and distribute appropriate educational materials
20 and resources to educators and public and nonpublic schools.

1 (b) The unit of instruction required under subsection (a)
2 shall be integrated within the health course of study required
3 in accordance with the State Board of Education regulations
4 contained in 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4 (relating to academic standards
5 and assessment). The department may utilize any appropriate
6 public or private materials, personnel and other resources in
7 developing and implementing this unit of instruction.

8 (c) The unit of instruction required under subsection (a)
9 shall include:

10 (1) A physiology component relating to blood, blood types
11 and the circulatory system.

12 (2) A need and usage component that includes information
13 relating to:

14 (i) The frequency of and situations where donated blood is
15 needed.

16 (ii) Procedures utilized for the collection of donated blood
17 and the safety of those procedures.

18 (iii) Procedures utilized for the storage of donated blood
19 and the various uses of donated blood.

20 (iv) Specific instances where an available donated blood
21 supply assisted individuals in need.

22 (3) A participation component to encourage students to
23 donate blood and volunteer at local blood banks, which component
24 emphasizes the personal rewards and community benefits from
25 donation and participation.

26 (d) (1) A student shall be excused from participation in
27 the unit of instruction required under subsection (a) if the
28 student or, if the student is less than eighteen (18) years of
29 age, the student's parent or guardian objects in writing to such
30 participation on religious grounds.

1 (2) No student excused under paragraph (1) shall be
2 penalized for such excuse. During the time period that the unit
3 of instruction is presented, a substitute unit of instruction
4 shall be provided to the student in accordance with regulations
5 promulgated by the State Board of Education.

6 (e) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules and
7 regulations necessary for the implementation of this section.

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