

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 743 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY RAFFERTY, BAKER, FOLMER, FARNESE, PILEGGI, WAUGH, MENSCH, EARLL, BROWNE, YAW, M. WHITE, GREENLEAF AND WOZNIAK, MARCH 4, 2011

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 4, 2011

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 teaching safe driving of motor  
 7 vehicles.

8 The General Assembly finds and declares that:

9 (1) Motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of  
 10 teen fatalities in this Commonwealth.

11 (2) In 2008, 154 teens between 15 and 19 years of age  
 12 were killed in motor vehicle accidents in this Commonwealth.

13 (3) Teen driver education introduces new teen drivers to  
 14 the hazards of driving and helps to reduce the risk of motor  
 15 vehicle accidents involving teens.

16 (4) There is a shortage of professional educators  
 17 certified by the Department of Education to teach driver  
 18 education.

19 (5) Due to extreme financial strain or the lack of  
 20 professional educators certified by the Department of

1 Education to teach driver education, many school districts in  
2 this Commonwealth no longer provide theoretical driver  
3 education in the classroom.

4 (6) In the absence of a professional educator certified  
5 by the Department of Education to teach driver education who  
6 is available and willing to teach in the school district, a  
7 school district should be permitted to contract with a  
8 private driver training instructor or private driver training  
9 school to teach theoretical driver education in the  
10 classroom.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 1519 of the act of March 10, 1949  
14 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is  
15 amended by adding a subsection to read:

16 Section 1519. Teaching of Safe Driving of Motor Vehicles.--

17 \* \* \*

18 (b.1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or  
19 any other law, except for subsection (b)(6) and section 111, a  
20 person who possesses the qualifications of a teacher or a  
21 director under section 4(2) of the act of January 18, 1952 (1951  
22 P.L.2128, No.605), referred to as the Private Driver Education  
23 or Training School Act, shall not be required to meet the  
24 certification requirements under Article XII in order to be  
25 permitted to provide classroom instruction under this section.

26 \* \* \*

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