

## 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

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, DECEMBER 7, 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

1 professional educators certified by the Department of  
2 Education to teach driver education, many school districts in  
3 this Commonwealth no longer provide theoretical driver  
4 education in the classroom.

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

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

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

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

18 \* \* \*

19 (b.1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or  
20 any other law, except for subsection (b) (6) and section 111, a  
21 person who possesses the qualifications of a teacher or a  
22 director under section 4(2) of the act of January 18, 1952 (1951  
23 P.L.2128, No.605), referred to as the Private Driver Education  
24 or Training School Act, shall not be required to meet the  
25 certification requirements under Article XII in order to be  
26 permitted to provide classroom instruction under this section, ←  
27 PROVIDED THAT THE EMPLOYING SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS POSTED THE  
28 VACANT POSITION FOR A MINIMUM OF TEN (10) DAYS ON THE SCHOOL  
29 ENTITY'S PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE AND NO QUALIFIED CANDIDATE  
30 CERTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO TEACH DRIVER AND

1 SAFETY EDUCATION IS AVAILABLE TO FILL THE POSITION.

2 \* \* \*

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