

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 871 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY BRUBAKER, PICCOLA, PILEGGI, FOLMER, EICHELBERGER,
ALLOWAY, WAUGH, ERICKSON, D. WHITE, HUGHES AND YAW,
MARCH 31, 2011

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 31, 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," further providing for continuing
6 professional development and for program of continuing
7 professional development.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1205.1 of the act of March 10, 1949
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
12 amended by adding a subsection to read:

13 Section 1205.1. Continuing Professional Development.--* * *

14 (f) Beginning on the effective date of this subsection, the
15 requirements under this section shall be suspended until June
16 30, 2013.

17 Section 2. Section 1205.2(a) and (f) of the act, amended
18 July 13, 2005 (P.L.226, No.46) and February 2, 2006 (P.L.19,
19 No.5), are amended and the section is amended by adding a
20 subsection to read:

1 Section 1205.2. Program of Continuing Professional
2 Education.--(a) A continuing professional education program is
3 hereby established for professional educators, the satisfactory
4 completion of which is required to maintain active
5 certification. Except as provided in subsection [(j.1)] (n.1),
6 the continuing professional education program shall require the
7 satisfactory completion of continuing professional education
8 every five (5) years, which shall include:

9 (1) six (6) credits of collegiate study;

10 (2) six (6) credits of continuing professional education
11 courses;

12 (3) one hundred eighty (180) hours of continuing
13 professional education programs, activities or learning
14 experiences; or

15 (4) any combination of collegiate studies, continuing
16 professional education courses, or other programs, activities or
17 learning experiences equivalent to one hundred eighty (180)
18 hours.

19 * * *

20 (f) [The] Except as provided in subsection (n.1), the
21 department shall annually provide a minimum of forty (40) hours
22 of continuing professional education courses, programs,
23 activities or learning experiences at no charge to professional
24 educators. In providing these courses, the department shall seek
25 to use the most efficient and cost-effective means possible,
26 including the use of advanced technology such as CD-ROM, the
27 Internet and distance communication.

28 * * *

29 (n.1) Beginning on the effective date of this subsection,
30 the requirements under subsections (a) and (f) shall be

1 suspended until June 30, 2013. During that time, the Legislative
2 Budget and Finance Committee shall conduct a study of the costs
3 and benefits of the continuing professional education program.
4 On July 1, 2013, each professional educator shall have the same
5 number of hours of continuing professional education and the
6 same amount of time in which to complete those hours as existed
7 for the professional educator on the effective date of this
8 subsection; provided, however, that any continuing professional
9 education credits or hours completed by a professional educator
10 during the period of suspension under this subsection shall be
11 credited to the professional educator's continuing professional
12 education record.

13 * * *

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