

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1133 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY D. WHITE, ALLOWAY, GREENLEAF AND MENSCH,  
JUNE 14, 2011

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JUNE 14, 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 purposes and  
6 general powers.

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

9 Section 1. Section 2003-A(a) of the act of March 10, 1949  
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
11 amended July 11, 1990 (P.L.424, No.103), is amended and the  
12 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

13 Section 2003-A. Purposes and General Powers.--(a) The State  
14 System of Higher Education shall be part of the Commonwealth's  
15 system of higher education. Its purpose shall be to provide high  
16 quality education at the lowest possible cost to the students.  
17 The primary mission of the system is the provision of  
18 instruction for undergraduate and graduate students to and  
19 beyond the master's degree in the liberal arts and sciences and  
20 in applied fields, including the teaching profession. [Graduate

1 instruction at the doctoral level, except for doctoral programs  
2 provided for in the act of December 16, 1965 (P.L.1113, No.430),  
3 known as the "Indiana University of Pennsylvania Act," only may  
4 be offered jointly with Indiana University or an institution  
5 chartered to offer work at the doctoral level.] Programs of  
6 research and service may be provided which are approved by the  
7 Board of Governors, and which are consistent with the primary  
8 mission of the system. Each institution shall provide  
9 appropriate educational facilities, student living facilities  
10 and such other facilities as deemed necessary by the board.

11 (a.1) Schools may give graduate instruction at doctoral  
12 level in accordance with the following:

13 (1) Notwithstanding the authority granted to Indiana  
14 University of Pennsylvania as provided in the "Indiana  
15 University of Pennsylvania Act," all institutions of the system  
16 shall have the authority to provide graduate instruction at the  
17 doctoral level in areas of study leading to professional  
18 doctoral degrees, which are also known as applied doctoral  
19 degrees. Only Indiana University of Pennsylvania shall have the  
20 authority to offer a doctor of philosophy degree.

21 (2) All professional doctoral degree programs must be  
22 approved by the board prior to being offered by an institution.  
23 Institutions offering professional doctoral degrees shall comply  
24 with all criteria established by the board and satisfy all  
25 requirements deemed necessary by the board. The criteria shall  
26 include:

27 (i) Institutional mission, plan and readiness.

28 (ii) Need for the program.

29 (iii) Academic integrity.

30 (iv) Cooperation with other institutions, agencies or

1 organizations.

2 (v) Assessment and accreditation.

3 (vi) Resource sufficiency.

4 (vii) Educational opportunity.

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6 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.