

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 345 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY ROEBUCK, CARROLL, HARKINS, LONGIETTI, O'BRIEN, V. BROWN, BROWNLIE, D. COSTA, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, HARHAI, KORTZ, McCARTER, C. PARKER, SCHLOSSBERG, SCHREIBER, STAATS, THOMAS AND WATSON, FEBRUARY 5, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 5, 2015

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 the State Board of Education,  
 6 further providing for powers and duties of the board.

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

9 Section 1. Section 2603-B(h) of the act of March 10, 1949  
 10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added  
 11 March 30, 1988 (P.L.321, No.43), is amended to read:

12 Section 2603-B. Powers and Duties of the Board.--\* \* \*

13 (h) Every five (5) years, the board shall adopt a master  
 14 plan for higher education which shall be for the guidance of the  
 15 Governor, the General Assembly, and all institutions of higher  
 16 education financed wholly or in part from State appropriations.

17 The master plan shall:

18 [(1) define the role of each type of institution (State-  
 19 owned universities, State-related universities, community

1 colleges, private colleges and universities and off-campus  
2 centers of any of these and other institutions authorized to  
3 grant degrees) in this Commonwealth;

4 (2) recommend enrollment levels for each such institution;

5 (3) recommend methods for governance;

6 (4) recommend methods for the distribution of State funds  
7 among the institutions;

8 (5) evaluate the status of physical plants and technical  
9 equipment and project needs;

10 (6) evaluate the status of and projection of manpower needs;

11 (7) evaluate enrollment accessibility to institutions of  
12 higher learning by the public; and

13 (8) otherwise provide for an orderly development of  
14 institutions of higher education in this Commonwealth.]

15 (1) describe the current higher education landscape in this  
16 Commonwealth;

17 (2) identify unmet needs and gaps with regard to career  
18 fields, geographic and financial access;

19 (3) identify emerging higher education issues and recommend  
20 strategies and options designed to address the issues;

21 (4) identify gaps and opportunities for collaboration with  
22 basic education, work force development programs, economic  
23 development and other related systems; and

24 (5) outline a plan for action by the board to revise or  
25 update its higher education regulations.

26 \* \* \*

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