

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 537 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY KAUFFMAN, BLOOM, SACCONI, MALONEY, O'BRIEN,
 BARRAR, HARHART, RAPP, METCALFE, TALLMAN, READSHAW, MARSHALL,
 MCGINNIS, MILLARD, GABLER, LAWRENCE, EMRICK, BENNINGHOFF,
 MOUL AND HEFFLEY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 23, 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 preliminary provisions, providing
 6 for Pennsylvania Core Standards Commission.

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

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

12 Section 124. Pennsylvania Core Standards Commission.--(a)
 13 The Pennsylvania Core Standards Commission is established.

14 (b) The commission shall study the Pennsylvania Core
 15 Standards under 22 Pa. Code Ch. 4 (relating to academic
 16 standards and assessment) and make recommendations to the State
 17 Board of Education for new standards to replace the Pennsylvania
 18 Core Standards.

19 (c) The commission shall consist of the following members:

1 (1) The following persons to be appointed by the Governor:

2 (i) Two (2) professional educators currently teaching in a
3 public school offering classes at any grade level from
4 kindergarten through grade twelve.

5 (ii) One (1) parent of a student enrolled in a public school
6 offering classes at any grade level from kindergarten through
7 grade twelve.

8 (iii) Two (2) persons employed in the private sector.

9 (2) The Secretary of Education or the secretary's designee.

10 (3) The following persons to be appointed by the President
11 pro tempore of the Senate, in consultation with the Majority
12 Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate:

13 (i) Two (2) professional educators currently teaching in a
14 public school offering classes at any grade level from
15 kindergarten through grade twelve.

16 (ii) One (1) parent of a student enrolled in a public school
17 offering classes at any grade level from kindergarten through
18 grade twelve.

19 (iii) Two (2) persons employed in the private sector.

20 (4) The chair and minority chair of the Education Committee
21 of the Senate and the chair and minority chair of the Education
22 Committee of the House of Representatives, or their designees.

23 (5) The following persons to be appointed by the Speaker of
24 the House of Representatives, in consultation with the Majority
25 Leader and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives:

26 (i) Two (2) professional educators currently teaching in a
27 public school offering classes at any grade level from
28 kindergarten through grade twelve.

29 (ii) One (1) parent of a student enrolled in a public school
30 offering classes at any grade level from kindergarten through

1 grade twelve.

2 (iii) Two (2) persons employed in the private sector.

3 (6) The chair of the State Board of Education or the chair's
4 designee.

5 (c) The members of the commission shall be appointed no
6 later than thirty (30) days after the effective date of this
7 section.

8 (d) The commission shall appoint a member to serve as chair
9 of the commission.

10 (e) The commission shall hold meetings at the call of the
11 chair.

12 (f) The commission shall have the following powers and
13 duties:

14 (1) Consult with and utilize experts.

15 (2) Receive input from interested parties.

16 (3) Hold public hearings in different regions of this
17 Commonwealth.

18 (g) The members of the commission may not receive
19 compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for all
20 necessary travel and other reasonable expenses incurred in
21 connection with the performance of their duties as members of
22 the commission.

23 (h) The Department of Education shall:

24 (1) Provide administrative support, meeting space and any
25 other assistance required by the commission to carry out its
26 duties under this section.

27 (2) Provide the commission with data, research and other
28 information upon request by the commission.

29 (i) The commission shall submit its recommendations under
30 subsection (b) no later than six (6) months after the effective

1 date of this section.

2 (j) The State Board of Education shall promulgate final
3 omitted regulations pursuant to the act of June 25, 1982
4 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the "Regulatory Review Act," based
5 on the recommendations received under subsection (i) no later
6 than one (1) year after receipt of the recommendations under
7 subsection (i). The regulations promulgated under this
8 subsection shall not deviate from the recommendations received
9 under subsection (i).

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