

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1634 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY LAWRENCE, DIAMOND, GILLEN, IRVIN, JOZWIAK,
KAUFFMAN, MALONEY, MURT, SANTORA, SONNEY, TALLMAN, TRUITT,
WARD, WARNER, WHEELAND, ZIMMERMAN, ACOSTA, V. BROWN, COHEN,
DAVIS, GIBBONS AND KINSEY, OCTOBER 19, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, OCTOBER 19, 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, further
6 providing for Keystone Exams.

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

9 Section 1. Section 121 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30,
10 No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added June 30,
11 2012 (P.L.684, No.82), is amended to read:

12 Section 121. Keystone Exams.--(a) Subject to annual
13 appropriation, not later than the 2020-2021 school year, the
14 Department of Education shall develop and implement Keystone
15 Exams in the following subjects: algebra I, literature, biology,
16 English composition, algebra II, geometry, United States
17 history, chemistry, civics and government and world history. The
18 State Board of Education shall promulgate regulations, subject
19 to the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the

1 "Regulatory Review Act," necessary to implement this [section]
2 subsection.

3 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
4 contrary, no child may be required to take a Keystone Exam if
5 the parent or guardian of the child notifies in writing the
6 superintendent or chief administrator that the parent or
7 guardian wishes for the child not to take the Keystone Exam.

8 (c) No student may be penalized by a school district, the
9 State Board of Education or the Commonwealth for failing to take
10 a Keystone Exam if the parent or guardian of the child has
11 provided notice under subsection (b).

12 (d) No student may be required to take a Keystone Exam as a
13 condition for high school graduation.

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