

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1906 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SAYLOR, JAMES, SCHLOSSBERG, WATSON, WARD, STURLA,
D. COSTA, MOUL, MAJOR, V. BROWN, FARRY AND DeLUCA,
MARCH 17, 2016

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 4, 2016

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 school directors, providing for
6 school director training programs.

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 328. School Director Training Programs.--(a)
13 Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year and in each school year
14 thereafter, each newly elected or appointed school director
15 shall complete, during the first year of the school director's
16 first term, a training program developed and made available by
17 the Department of Education, in consultation with a Statewide
18 organization representing school directors and a Statewide
19 organization representing school business officials, pertaining

1 to the skills and knowledge necessary to serve as a school
2 director. The training program shall consist of eight (8) hours
3 of instruction, to include, at a minimum, information regarding
4 the following:

5 (1) Instruction and academic programs.

6 (2) Personnel.

7 (3) Fiscal management.

8 (4) Operations.

9 (5) Governance.

10 (6) ETHICS, TO INCLUDE THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER 65 PA.C.S. PT. <--
11 II (RELATING TO ACCOUNTABILITY).

12 (b) Within one (1) year after each reelection or
13 reappointment to the board of school directors, each school
14 director shall complete an advanced training program developed
15 and offered by the Department of Education in consultation with
16 a Statewide organization representing school directors and a
17 Statewide organization representing school business officials.
18 The advanced training program shall consist of four (4) hours of
19 instruction, including information on relevant changes to
20 Federal and State public school law and regulations, fiscal
21 management and other information deemed appropriate by the
22 Department of Education, to enable the school director to serve
23 effectively.

24 (c) The Department of Education shall examine options for
25 providing the training programs required under this section
26 through methods such as online or other distance learning media
27 or through regional-based training.

28 (d) The training programs required under this section shall
29 be developed and offered by the Department of Education at no
30 cost to school districts or school directors. THE DEPARTMENT OF <--

1 EDUCATION MAY APPROVE TRAINING PROGRAMS THAT FULFILL THE
2 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION WHICH CAN BE PROVIDED BY SCHOOL
3 DISTRICTS, INTERMEDIATE UNITS OR POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS.

4 (e) Each school director who is in office on the effective
5 date of this section shall complete the training program
6 required under subsection (a) by June 30, 2018.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.