

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 320 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY BREWSTER, FONTANA, FARNESE, WOZNIAK AND VANCE,
JANUARY 23, 2015

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JANUARY 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 charter schools, further providing
6 for school staff.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1724-A(a) of the act of March 10, 1949
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added
11 June 19, 1997 (P.L.225, No.22), is amended to read:

12 Section 1724-A. School Staff.--(a) (1) The board of
13 trustees shall determine the level of compensation and all terms
14 and conditions of employment of the staff except as may
15 otherwise be provided in this article. [At] Subject to the
16 provisions of paragraph (2), at least seventy-five per centum of
17 the professional staff members of a charter school shall hold
18 appropriate State certification.

19 (2) (i) Professional staff members of a charter school who
20 are employed on the effective date of this paragraph and who do

1 not possess appropriate State certification as of the effective
2 date of this paragraph shall not be required to obtain
3 appropriate State certification.

4 (ii) Professional staff members of a charter school who
5 commence employment after the effective date of this paragraph
6 shall hold appropriate State certification.

7 (3) Employees of a charter school may organize under the act
8 of July 23, 1970 (P.L.563, No.195), known as the "Public Employe
9 Relations Act." The board of trustees of a charter school shall
10 be considered an employer for the purposes of Article XI-A. Upon
11 formation of one or more collective bargaining units at the
12 school, the board of trustees shall bargain with the employes
13 based on the provisions of this article, Article XI-A and the
14 "Public Employe Relations Act." Collective bargaining units at a
15 charter school shall be separate from any collective bargaining
16 unit of the school district in which the charter school is
17 located and shall be separate from any other collective
18 bargaining unit. A charter school shall be considered a school
19 entity as provided for in section 1161-A for the purpose of the
20 secretary seeking an injunction requiring the charter school to
21 meet the minimum requirements for instruction as provided for in
22 this article.

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