
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1893 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY ROAE, DIAMOND, MCGINNIS, KAUFFMAN, RAPP,
ZIMMERMAN, GROVE, MENTZER, ORTITAY, LAWRENCE AND WARD,
OCTOBER 26, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, OCTOBER 26, 2017

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 duties and powers of boards of
6 school directors, further providing for majority vote
7 required and recording.

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

10 Section 1. Section 508 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30,
11 No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended to
12 read:

13 Section 508. Majority Vote Required; Recording.--[The] (a)
14 Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), the affirmative
15 vote of a majority of all the members of the board of school
16 directors in every school district, duly recorded, showing how
17 each member voted, shall be required in order to take action on
18 the following subjects:--

19 Fixing length of school term.

20 Adopting textbooks.

1 Appointing or dismissing district superintendents, assistant
2 district superintendents, associate superintendents, principals,
3 and teachers.

4 Appointing tax collectors and other appointees.

5 Adopting the annual budget.

6 Levying and assessing taxes.

7 Purchasing, selling, or condemning land.

8 Locating new buildings or changing the locations of old ones.

9 Dismissing a teacher after a hearing.

10 Creating or increasing any indebtedness.

11 Adopting courses of study.

12 Establishing additional schools or departments.

13 Designating depositories for school funds.

14 Entering into contracts of any kind, including contracts for
15 the purchase of fuel or any supplies, where the amount involved
16 exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100).

17 Fixing salaries or compensation of officers, teachers, or
18 other appointees of the board of school directors, who are not
19 subject to collective bargaining under Article XI-A.

20 Entering into contracts with and making appropriations to the
21 intermediate unit for the district's proportionate share of the
22 cost of services provided or to be provided for by the
23 intermediate unit.

24 (b) The following provisions shall apply to votes taken by a
25 board of school directors on a contract subject to collective
26 bargaining under Article XI-A:

27 (1) A member of the board of school directors shall be
28 prohibited from voting on the contract if a close relative of
29 the member belongs to the employee organization that is a party
30 to the contract.

1 (2) At the time that the board of school directors votes on
2 the contract, a member who is prohibited from voting under
3 paragraph (1) shall declare that the member is abstaining on the
4 vote due to a close relative conflict.

5 (3) The contract entered into between the board of school
6 directors and the employee organization must receive an
7 affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the board of
8 school directors who are not prohibited from voting under
9 paragraph (1).

10 (c) Failure to comply with the provisions of this section
11 shall render such acts of the board of school directors void and
12 [unenforcible] unenforceable.

13 (d) For purposes of this section, "close relative" means a
14 spouse, child, parent or sibling of a member of a board of
15 school directors and an individual who resides in the same
16 household as the member, whether or not related to the member.

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