THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1107 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY BREWSTER, FONTANA, BLAKE, LEACH, SCHWANK, COSTA, FARNESE, RESCHENTHALER, YUDICHAK, STEFANO, BROWNE AND HUGHES, JUNE 11, 2018

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JUNE 11, 2018

AN ACT

- Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain 2 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial 3 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," in preliminary provisions, establishing and providing for the powers and duties of the 5 Statewide School Safety Commission. 8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows: 10 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known 11 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a 12 section to read: Section 127. Statewide School Safety Commission. -- (a) The 13 14 Statewide School Safety Commission is established. (b) The commission shall review and make recommendations 15 related to improved school safety as provided in this section. 16 17 (c) The commission shall consist of the following members: 18 (1) One legislative member appointed from each of the four
- 20 (i) The Majority Leader of the Senate.

<u>legislative caucuses</u>, to be appointed by:

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- 1 (ii) The Minority Leader of the Senate.
- 2 (iii) The Majority Leader of the House of Representatives.
- 3 (iv) The Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.
- 4 (2) The Secretary of Education or a designee.
- 5 (3) The Commissioner of Pennsylvania State Police or a
- 6 <u>designee</u>.
- 7 (4) One law enforcement officer appointed by the Governor
- 8 from a list of three qualified individuals recommended by a
- 9 Statewide fraternal organization representing law enforcement
- 10 officers.
- 11 (5) One parent who has a child who attends a school entity
- 12 appointed by the Governor from a list of three parents
- 13 <u>recommended by a Statewide organization representing parents and</u>
- 14 <u>teachers.</u>
- 15 (6) One school entity employe appointed by the Governor from
- 16 <u>a list of three school entity employes recommended by a</u>
- 17 Statewide association representing school entity employes that
- 18 has a membership of greater than one hundred forty thousand
- 19 (140,000) school entity employes.
- 20 (7) One member of a board of school directors from a school
- 21 district appointed by the Governor from a list of three
- 22 qualified individuals recommended by a Statewide association
- 23 representing school districts, intermediate units and career and
- 24 technical schools.
- 25 (8) One superintendent of a school district appointed by the
- 26 Governor from a list of three qualified individuals recommended
- 27 <u>by a Statewide association representing chief school</u>
- 28 administrators.
- 29 (9) One high school student of a school entity appointed by
- 30 the Governor from a list of three students recommended by a

- 1 Statewide association representing middle and high school
- 2 students who participate in student government and leadership
- 3 activities.
- 4 (10) One member appointed by the Governor from a list of
- 5 three qualified individuals recommended by a Statewide
- 6 <u>association representing architects.</u>
- 7 (d) The commission shall appoint a member to serve as chair
- 8 <u>of the commission.</u>
- 9 (e) The commission shall hold its first meeting within sixty
- 10 (60) days of the effective date of this section, regardless of
- 11 whether the Governor or all legislative caucuses have actually
- 12 <u>approved members to the commission.</u>
- 13 (f) The commission shall hold quarterly meetings.
- 14 (g) The members may not receive compensation for their
- 15 services but shall be reimbursed for all necessary travel and
- 16 other reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the
- 17 performance of their duties as members of the commission.
- 18 (h) The General Assembly shall provide administrative
- 19 support, meeting space and any other assistance required by the
- 20 commission to carry out its duties under this section in
- 21 cooperation with the department.
- 22 (i) The department and the Pennsylvania State Police shall
- 23 provide the commission with data, research and other information
- 24 upon request by the commission.
- 25 (j) The commission shall have the following powers and
- 26 duties:
- 27 (1) To review existing policies and procedures and make
- 28 recommendations for the improvement of school safety.
- 29 (2) To consult with and utilize experts to assist the
- 30 commission in carrying out its duties under this section.

- 1 (3) To receive input from interested parties, including, but
- 2 not limited to, the following:
- 3 (i) Safety experts.
- 4 (ii) Education officials.
- 5 (iii) Law enforcement.
- 6 (iv) School entity educators.
- 7 (v) Parents with one or more children enrolled in a school
- 8 entity.
- 9 (vi) Students enrolled in a school entity.
- 10 (vii) Other stakeholders as designated by:
- 11 (A) The Majority Leader of the Senate.
- 12 (B) The Minority Leader of the Senate.
- 13 (C) The Majority Leader of the House of Representatives.
- 14 (D) The Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.
- 15 (4) To review and consider the safety audit and inventory of
- 16 <u>all school entity buildings used for student instruction</u>
- 17 prepared by the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee.
- 18 (5) To review and consider technologies, policies and
- 19 procedures currently utilized throughout the United States for
- 20 the improvement of school safety.
- 21 (6) To review and consider any proposed or newly developed
- 22 technologies, policies and procedures for the improvement of
- 23 school safety.
- 24 (7) To hold public hearings in different regions of this
- 25 Commonwealth.
- 26 (k) The commission shall issue an annual report of the
- 27 <u>commission's progress, findings and recommendations to the</u>
- 28 following:
- 29 <u>(1) The Governor.</u>
- 30 (2) The President pro tempore of the Senate.

- 1 (3) The Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the
- 2 Senate.
- 3 (4) The Education Committee of the Senate.
- 4 (5) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 5 (6) The Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the House
- 6 <u>of Representatives.</u>
- 7 (7) The Education Committee of the House of Representatives.
- 8 (8) The Secretary of Education.
- 9 <u>(9) The State Board of Education.</u>
- (1) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
- 11 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless
- 12 the context clearly indicates otherwise:
- "Chief school administrator." A superintendent of a school
- 14 <u>district</u>, an executive director of an intermediate unit or a
- 15 <u>chief administrative officer of a charter school.</u>
- 16 "Commission." The Statewide School Safety Commission
- 17 established under this section.
- 18 "Department." The Department of Education of the
- 19 Commonwealth.
- 20 "School entity." A school district, intermediate unit,
- 21 <u>charter school and cyber charter school.</u>
- 22 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.