

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 121 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY D. MILLER, STEPHENS, SCHLOSSBERG, A. DAVIS, RABB, DeLUCA, SIMS, HILL-EVANS, PASHINSKI, KORTZ, McCLINTON AND GILLEN, JANUARY 28, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JANUARY 28, 2019

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 grounds and buildings, providing
 6 for school police officers, school resource officers and
 7 school security guards.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 9 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:

13 Section 778.1. School Police Officers, School Resource
 14 Officers and School Security Guards.--(a) This section shall
 15 apply notwithstanding Articles XIII-B and XIII-C.

16 (b) Each school police officer, school resource officer, or
 17 school security guard shall successfully complete training
 18 designed to facilitate working with children and adolescents,
 19 including those with mental health and behavioral health needs
 20 due to a disability. The following apply:

1 (1) Training shall be completed within one hundred twenty
2 (120) days of the individual's commission or placement with a
3 school district or on a school campus, or within one hundred
4 twenty (120) days of the adoption of the curriculum in clause
5 (2), whichever applies.

6 (2) The commission shall develop, adopt or otherwise make
7 available an appropriate training curriculum related
8 specifically to children and adolescents that includes the
9 following topics:

10 (i) Child and adolescent development and psychology.

11 (ii) Mental health, trauma and behavioral health needs of
12 children with disabilities, including crisis intervention
13 techniques especially suited to those children.

14 (iii) Positive behavioral interventions and supports,
15 conflict resolution techniques and restorative justice
16 practices.

17 (iv) De-escalation techniques and methods for limiting the
18 use of force, including the use of physical, mechanical and
19 chemical restraints.

20 (v) Emergency planning considerations and age-appropriate
21 safety instruction training, including for students with mental
22 health, disabilities or other behavioral health needs.

23 (3) The curriculum shall be made available within six months
24 of the effective date of this clause. Before adopting the
25 curriculum, the commission shall provide a thirty (30) day
26 period for public comment.

27 (4) The commission shall review the curriculum developed and
28 adopted under this section and update the subject matter as
29 needed at least once every three years.

30 (5) A school police officer, school resource officer or

1 school security guard who has completed the Basic School
2 Resource Officer Course conducted by the National Association of
3 School Resource Officers within the last three years, or a
4 training course equivalent as accepted by the commission, shall
5 be considered to be in compliance with the training requirement
6 specified in this subsection.

7 (6) Each school police officer or school security guard
8 shall complete child and adolescent training under this
9 subsection every three years.

10 (c) Each school security guard who carries a firearm as a
11 requirement of employment as a school security guard shall
12 complete firearm recertification every two years.

13 (d) Every two years, each school security guard shall
14 complete first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated
15 external defibrillator training recertification.

16 (e) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
17 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
18 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

19 "Commission." The Municipal Police Officers Education
20 Training Commission.

21 "School police officer." As defined in section 1301-C.

22 "School resource officer." As defined in section 1301-C.

23 "School security guard." As defined in section 1301-C.

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