
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1393 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, BURGOS, SCHLOSSBERG, KINSEY,
McCLINTON, DONATUCCI, SHUSTERMAN, MURT, HILL-EVANS, JOHNSON-
HARRELL, SCHWEYER AND KIRKLAND, MAY 30, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 30, 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 terms and courses of study,
6 further providing for subjects of instruction and flag code.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1511 of the act of March 10, 1949
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
11 amended to read:

12 Section 1511. Subjects of Instruction; Flag Code.--In every
13 elementary public and private school, established and maintained
14 in this Commonwealth, the following subjects shall be taught, in
15 the English language and from English texts: English, including
16 spelling, reading and writing, arithmetic, geography, the
17 history of the United States and of Pennsylvania, including
18 African-American, Native American and Hispanic history, culture
19 and diversity, civics, including loyalty to the State and

1 National Government, safety education, and the humane treatment
2 of birds and animals, health, including physical education, and
3 physiology, music and art. Other subjects shall be taught in the
4 public elementary schools and also in the public high schools as
5 may be prescribed by the standards of the State Board of
6 Education. All such subjects, except foreign languages, shall be
7 taught in the English language and from English texts: Provided,
8 however, That, at the discretion of the Superintendent of Public
9 Instruction, the teaching of subjects in a language other than
10 English may be permitted as part of a sequence in foreign
11 language study or as part of a bilingual education program if
12 the teaching personnel are properly certified in the subject
13 fields. Each school district shall provide and distribute to
14 each pupil, enrolled in the eighth grade of the public schools,
15 one illustrated copy of the National Flag Code, and shall, from
16 time to time, make available such copies as are necessary for
17 replacements from year to year. It shall be the duty of each
18 teacher in the public schools to make such use of the code as
19 may, from time to time, seem proper.

20 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 120 days.