

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2787 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY REESE, JONES, BARRAR, BERNSTINE, BOROWICZ, CAUSER, COX, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAVANZO, DAY, DELOZIER, DOWLING, DUNBAR, DUSH, ECKER, EMRICK, EVERETT, FEE, GABLER, GLEIM, GROVE, HEFFLEY, HICKERNELL, IRVIN, JOZWIAK, KAUFFMAN, KEEFER, KLUNK, KNOWLES, KORTZ, LEWIS, MACKENZIE, MARSHALL, METCALFE, METZGAR, MILLARD, B. MILLER, MIZGORSKI, MOUL, NEILSON, NELSON, OBERLANDER, OWLETT, PEIFER, PICKETT, POLINCHOCK, READSHAW, RIGBY, ROAE, ROTHMAN, ROWE, RYAN, SANKEY, SAYLOR, SCHMITT, SONNEY, STAATS, THOMAS, TOPPER, WARNER, ZIMMERMAN, STRUZZI, LONGIETTI AND SAINATO, AUGUST 18, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, AUGUST 18, 2020

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 providing for sports and extracurricular activities during
 7 COVID-19 pandemic.

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 1501.10. Sports and Extracurricular Activities
 14 During COVID-19 Pandemic.--(a) Notwithstanding any other
 15 provision of law, the governing authority of a school entity or
 16 nonpublic school shall have the exclusive authority to determine

1 whether to hold school sports activities, including
2 competitions, intramural play and scrimmages, and other in-
3 person extracurricular activities during the 2020-2021 school
4 year.

5 (b) A school entity shall develop an athletic, health and
6 safety plan addressing school sports and other in-person
7 extracurricular activities during the 2020-2021 school year. A
8 school entity shall determine and include the following in the
9 plan:

10 (1) Safety protocols for permitting visitors and spectators
11 to attend sports and in-person extracurricular activities.

12 (2) Limits on gatherings for indoor and outdoor sports and
13 in-person extracurricular activities to ensure social
14 distancing.

15 (3) Protocols for sports consistent with the Centers for
16 Disease Control and Prevention Considerations for Youth Sports.

17 (4) Methods of ensuring that social distancing and other
18 safety measures are in place for students, staff and spectators.

19 (c) A school entity shall post the athletic, health and
20 safety plan on its publicly accessible Internet website and
21 submit the plan to the Department of Education. A school entity
22 may amend the athletic, health and safety plan as needed.

23 (d) A nonpublic school may develop an athletic, health and
24 safety plan.

25 (e) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
26 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless
27 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

28 "School entity." A school district, intermediate unit, area
29 career and technical school, charter school, regional charter
30 school or cyber charter school.

1 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.