

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 47 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON, JANUARY 11, 2019

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JANUARY 11, 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 Safe2Say Program, further
 6 providing for school entity procedures.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1303-D of the act of March 10, 1949
 10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added
 11 June 22, 2018 (P.L.327, No.44), is amended to read:

12 Section 1303-D. Safe2Say Program.

13 (a) Establishment.--The Safe2Say Program is established
 14 within the office.

15 (b) Administration.--The Attorney General shall:

16 (1) administer the program pursuant to the requirements
 17 under subsection (c); and

18 (2) promulgate regulations and adopt all guidelines
 19 necessary for the establishment of the program and
 20 administration of this article, in consultation with

1 Statewide organizations.

2 (c) Program requirements.--Beginning January 14, 2019, the
3 program shall be responsible for the following:

4 (1) To ensure anonymous reporting concerning unsafe,
5 potentially harmful, dangerous, violent or criminal
6 activities in a school entity or the threat of the activities
7 in a school entity.

8 (2) To establish protocols and procedures to promptly
9 notify the appropriate law enforcement agency via 911 centers
10 and the Pennsylvania State Police when the program receives
11 an anonymous report of violent or criminal activities in a
12 school entity that poses an immediate threat of violence or
13 criminal activity.

14 (3) To ensure that the identity of the individual making
15 a report remains unknown to any person, including law
16 enforcement officers and employees of the office.

17 (4) To ensure that information obtained from an
18 individual making a report who voluntarily discloses his or
19 her identity and verifies that he or she is willing to be
20 identified may be shared with law enforcement officers,
21 employees of the office and school officials.

22 (5) To ensure that if the identity of an individual
23 making a report becomes known through a means other than
24 voluntary disclosure, the identity is not further disclosed.

25 (6) To establish procedures to promptly forward
26 information received by the program to the appropriate law
27 enforcement agency, school official or organization, as
28 determined by the office. The office may not be held liable
29 for investigation of a report made to the program following
30 confirmation of receipt of the report by the appropriate law

1 enforcement agency, school official or organization.

2 (7) To train or provide instruction to individuals,
3 including, but not limited to, emergency dispatch centers and
4 school entities, on appropriate awareness and response to the
5 program.

6 (8) To provide program awareness and education materials
7 to school entities.

8 (9) To, in consultation with the Department of
9 Education, establish guidelines school entities may utilize
10 to respond to a report received from the program.

11 (10) To work with school entities, local law enforcement
12 agencies and organizations to identify each person to whom a
13 report from the program will be sent.

14 (d) School entity.--~~[Each]~~ Beginning with the 2020-2021
15 school year and each school year thereafter, each school entity
16 shall develop procedures for assessing and responding to reports
17 received from the program.

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.