
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 182 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BROOKS, SCAVELLO, GORDNER, ARGALL, BREWSTER,
J. WARD, DINNIMAN, COSTA, WHITE AND YUDICHAK,
FEBRUARY 1, 2019

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 1, 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 school health services, further
6 providing for health services.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1402 of the act of March 10, 1949
10 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
11 amended by adding subsections to read:

12 Section 1402. Health Services.--* * *

13 (e.1) A school nurse, school physician or employe of a
14 school district shall remove a tick from a student in accordance
15 with guidelines issued by the Secretary of Health. After a tick
16 is removed from a student, the school district shall notify in
17 writing the parent or guardian of the student. The notice shall
18 state that:

19 (1) A tick was removed from your child today. Ticks can

1 transmit disease and make people sick. A common illness caused
2 by ticks in Pennsylvania is Lyme disease.

3 (2) Not all tick bites lead to Lyme disease.

4 (3) The parent or guardian should record the date on which
5 the tick was removed.

6 (4) It is recommended that the parent or guardian seek
7 medical treatment from the child's doctor promptly if they
8 notice any early signs or symptoms of illness within three (3)
9 to thirty (30) days of the date of removal. Some people with
10 Lyme disease will get a bulls-eye rash. Others may have an
11 atypical rash. Not everyone who has Lyme disease gets a rash.
12 Other symptoms which may occur during the early state of Lyme
13 disease include: chills, fever, headache, tiredness, stiff neck,
14 joint pain or swelling and swollen lymph nodes. Lyme disease is
15 treated with antibiotics. If untreated, infection may progress
16 to joint, heart, brain or nerve abnormalities.

17 (e.2) The Secretary of Health shall publish guidelines
18 consistent with subsection (e.1) on the Department of Health's
19 publicly accessible Internet website and, in consultation with
20 the Secretary of Education, provide the guidelines to school
21 districts.

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