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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 354 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY ISAACSON, CIRESI, DRISCOLL, FREEMAN, GALLOWAY,  
HILL-EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, KENYATTA, NEILSON, SANCHEZ,  
SCHLOSSBERG, SIMS AND D. WILLIAMS, FEBRUARY 3, 2021

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, FEBRUARY 3, 2021

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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 miscellaneous provisions relating  
6 to institutions of higher education, providing for payment of  
7 salary in cases of leave due to COVID-19.

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 2002-I. Payment of salary in cases of leave due to  
14 COVID-19.

15 (a) General rule.--An employee, faculty member or staff  
16 member of an institution of higher education who has been  
17 exposed to or infected with COVID-19 and is required to  
18 quarantine must be provided with 30 additional days of paid  
19 leave solely to be used for the required quarantine.

20 (b) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following

1 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
2 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 "COVID-19." The novel coronavirus as identified in the  
4 Governor's proclamation of disaster emergency issued on March 6,  
5 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020).

6 "Institution of higher education." Includes any of the  
7 following:

8 (1) A community college operating under Article XIX-A.

9 (2) A university within the State System of Higher  
10 Education.

11 (3) The Pennsylvania State University, the University of  
12 Pittsburgh, Temple University, Lincoln University or any  
13 other institution designated as State-related by the  
14 Commonwealth.

15 (4) The Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

16 (5) A college established under Article XIX-G.

17 (6) An institution of higher education located in and  
18 incorporated or chartered by the Commonwealth and entitled to  
19 confer degrees as set forth in 24 Pa.C.S. § 6505 (relating to  
20 power to confer degrees) and as provided for by the standards  
21 and qualifications prescribed by the State Board of Education  
22 under 24 Pa.C.S. Ch. 65 (relating to private colleges,  
23 universities and seminaries).

24 (7) A private school licensed under the act of December  
25 15, 1986 (P.L.1585, No.174), known as the Private Licensed  
26 Schools Act.

27 (8) A foreign corporation approved to operate an  
28 educational enterprise under 22 Pa. Code Ch. 36 (relating to  
29 foreign corporation standards).

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.