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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 232 Session of 2021

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INTRODUCED BY MUSTELLO, STRUZZI, ROWE, PISCIOTTANO AND HILL-  
EVANS, JANUARY 25, 2021

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JANUARY 25, 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 school districts, further  
6 providing for how constituted.

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

9 Section 1. Section 201 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30,  
10 No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended to  
11 read:

12 Section 201. How Constituted.--(a) All school districts  
13 shall remain as now constituted until changed as authorized by  
14 this act. Except as otherwise now or hereafter constituted, each  
15 city, incorporated town, borough, or township in this  
16 Commonwealth, now existing or hereafter created, shall  
17 constitute a separate school district, to be designated and  
18 known as the "School District of .....:"  
19 Provided, That where any city, incorporated town, borough, or  
20 township, or a part of the school district remaining after its

1 separation would constitute a third or fourth class school  
2 district, it shall remain a part of the school district to which  
3 it formerly belonged until the change to a new school district  
4 is approved by the Council of Basic Education, as hereinafter  
5 provided.

6 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), a  
7 school district in this Commonwealth may change its name by a  
8 majority vote of the local board of school directors of the  
9 school district and with approval of the Department of  
10 Education. The local board of school directors shall hold at  
11 least one public hearing on the proposed name change and  
12 determine the estimated cost associated with the name change.  
13 After a majority vote of the local board of school directors  
14 approving the name change, the school district shall report the  
15 name change to the Department of Education. The report of the  
16 name change must be received by the Department of Education by  
17 July 31 to be effective for the upcoming school year and shall  
18 include a certified copy of the resolutions adopted by the board  
19 of local school directors approving the name change. The  
20 Department of Education shall review and approve the name change  
21 within thirty (30) days of the school district reporting under  
22 this subsection if the new name of the school district is not a  
23 duplication of the name of another school district in this  
24 Commonwealth. Upon approval, the Department of Education shall  
25 issue a certificate stating the approved name of the school  
26 district has been registered as the official designation of the  
27 school district.

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