

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 139 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, STEFANO, ARGALL, BAKER, BARTOLOTTA, BROOKS, BROWNE, MARTIN, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, PITTMAN, J. WARD, K. WARD, REGAN AND YUDICHAK, JANUARY 28, 2021

SENATOR MARTIN, EDUCATION, AS AMENDED, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

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 moment of silence on September 11 anniversary.

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

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

12 Section 1555. Moment of silence on September 11
13 anniversary.--(a) Each school entity shall conduct a moment of
14 silence during instructional hours for students and faculty to
15 observe the anniversary of September 11, 2001, as a remembrance
16 of the thousands of military service persons, government
17 employees, civilians and emergency responders who lost their
18 lives or were wounded by terrorist attacks on that date.

19 ~~(b) The Department of Education shall make available to all~~ <--

1 ~~school entities voluntary in service training programs based~~
2 ~~upon the moment of silence provided for under subsection (a) and~~
3 ~~model curriculum guidelines.~~

4 ~~(c) The Department of Education shall provide the model~~
5 ~~curriculum guidelines, voluntary in service training and any~~
6 ~~other materials developed in accordance with this section to any~~
7 ~~nonpublic school within this Commonwealth upon receiving a~~
8 ~~request from the nonpublic school.~~

9 (B) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL ESTABLISH A MODEL <--
10 CURRICULUM FOR INSTRUCTION IN THE EVENTS AND SIGNIFICANCE OF
11 SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, NO LATER THAN TWELVE (12) MONTHS AFTER THE
12 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION. THE MODEL CURRICULUM SHALL
13 INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, ALL OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS
14 WHERE APPROPRIATE:

15 (1) THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF TERRORISM.

16 (2) THE TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE WORLD TRADE CENTER, THE
17 PENTAGON AND UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT 93 WHICH CRASHED IN
18 SHANKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

19 (3) AMERICAN RECOVERY AND RESPONSE TO THE ATTACKS.

20 (4) GLOBAL CHALLENGES AND CONSEQUENCES IN A POST-SEPTEMBER
21 11 WORLD.

22 (C) THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE ON THE
23 DEPARTMENT'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE INTERNET WEBSITE CURRICULUM
24 MATERIALS AND OTHER AVAILABLE RESOURCES REGARDING THE EVENTS AND
25 SIGNIFICANCE OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, FOR VOLUNTARY USE BY SCHOOL
26 ENTITIES.

27 (D) NOTHING IN SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO
28 REQUIRE A SCHOOL ENTITY OR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL TO IMPLEMENT, ADOPT
29 OR USE THE CURRICULUM, MATERIALS AND OTHER RESOURCES MADE
30 AVAILABLE BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS SECTION.

1 ~~(d)~~ (E) For purposes of this section, the term "school <--
2 entity" shall mean a school district, charter school, regional
3 charter school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit or area
4 career and technical school.

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.