

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1112 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY R. BROWN, BAKER, SCHLEGEL CULVER, DAVIS, DIAMOND, GILLEN, GRELL, GROVE, A. HARRIS, HEFFLEY, LAWRENCE, MASSER, MILLARD, MURT, D. PARKER, PEIFER, PICKETT, QUIGLEY, SAYLOR, TOPPER, WARD, WATSON AND WHEATLEY, MAY 5, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 5, 2015

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, providing for
6 data collection reduction.

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 221.2. Data Collection Reduction.--(a) The State
13 Board, in consultation with the advisory committee, shall:

14 (1) Review public school entity data collection requirements
15 existing as of the effective date of this section in the areas
16 of finance, human resources, food services, transportation,
17 child accounting, athletics, health and special education.

18 (2) Identify those data collection requirements that are
19 redundant, overly burdensome or no longer necessary.

1 (3) Publish a list of the data collection requirements
2 identified under paragraph (2) in the Pennsylvania Bulletin
3 within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this section.

4 (b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
5 department shall suspend all public school entity data
6 collection requirements identified under subsection (a)(2)
7 within one hundred and eighty (180) days of the effective date
8 of this section.

9 (2) Once a data collection requirement has been eliminated
10 under this section, the department may not resume the collection
11 of any data subject to the eliminated data collection
12 requirement.

13 (c) (1) Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of
14 this section, the State Board shall establish an advisory
15 committee consisting of:

16 (i) The Secretary of Education or a designee.

17 (ii) The chairman and minority chairman of the Education
18 Committee of the Senate.

19 (iii) The chairman and minority chairman of the Education
20 Committee of the House of Representatives.

21 (iv) The following members, to be appointed by the State
22 Board in consultation with education associations representing
23 school districts, intermediate units, charter school entities
24 and area vocational-technical schools:

25 (A) Three school district business managers.

26 (B) Three intermediate unit business managers.

27 (C) Three charter school entity business managers.

28 (D) Three area vocational-technical school business
29 managers.

30 (2) The advisory committee shall hold its first meeting

1 within forty-five (45) days of the effective date of this
2 section.

3 (3) The State Board shall provide administrative support,
4 meeting space and any other assistance required by the advisory
5 committee to carry out its duties under this section.

6 (d) For all new public school entity data collection
7 requirements instituted after the effective date of this section
8 that are not the result of new legislation enacted by the
9 General Assembly, the department shall provide the following
10 information to all public school entities and to the General
11 Assembly sixty (60) days prior to the first deadline for any new
12 data collection requirement:

13 (1) a justification for the data collection, including a
14 statement indicating why the data collection is necessary for
15 the proper performance of the department's functions;

16 (2) an explanation of how the department will use the data
17 collected;

18 (3) an explanation of how the department will share the data
19 with public school entities;

20 (4) a statement affirming that the data collection will not
21 impose any unjustified costs on public school entities or
22 require duplication of existing data collection requirements;
23 and

24 (5) a statement of the estimated costs to public school
25 entities for complying with the data collection requirement,
26 including the cost of staff time, training and software.

27 (e) For purposes of this section:

28 (1) "Advisory committee" shall mean the advisory committee
29 established under subsection (c).

30 (2) "Charter school entity" shall mean a charter school,

1 regional charter school or cyber charter school as defined in
2 section 1703-A.

3 (3) "Department" shall mean the Department of Education of
4 the Commonwealth.

5 (4) "Public school entity" shall mean any of the following:

6 (i) An area vocational-technical school.

7 (ii) A school district.

8 (iii) A charter school entity.

9 (iv) An intermediate unit.

10 (5) "State Board" shall mean the State Board of Education.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.