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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1908 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY METZGAR, JAMES, SMITH, BERNSTINE, ROAE, SCIALABBA,  
HAMM, TOPPER, O'NEAL, JOZWIAK, ZIMMERMAN, GILLEN AND ROWE,  
DECEMBER 11, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, DECEMBER 11, 2023

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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 safety and security,  
6 further providing for school safety and security coordinator;  
7 and, in school security, further providing for duties of  
8 commission and providing for school security personnel.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Sections 1309-B(c) and 1315-C of the act of March  
12 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of  
13 1949, are amended by adding paragraphs to read:

14 Section 1309-B. School safety and security coordinator.

15 \* \* \*

16 (c) Specific duties.--The school safety and security  
17 coordinator shall:

18 \* \* \*

19 (5.1) No later than June 30, 2024, and each June 30  
20 thereafter, make a report to the school entity's board of

1 directors on the school entity's current school security  
2 personnel. The following apply:

3 (i) Each report shall be presented to the school  
4 entity's board of directors at an executive session of  
5 the school entity's board of directors.

6 (ii) Each report shall be submitted to the committee  
7 and shall not be subject to the act of February 14, 2008  
8 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law.

9 (iii) Each report shall include:

10 (A) The number of school security personnel, as  
11 defined in section 1301-C, broken out by type.

12 (B) The number of each school police officer,  
13 each school resource officer and each school security  
14 guard that is armed.

15 (C) The school building at which each school  
16 security personnel is assigned.

17 (D) The training, including type of training and  
18 dates completed, by each school security personnel.

19 (E) A listing of other individuals utilized for  
20 school-safety-related duties.

21 \* \* \*

22 Section 1315-C. Duties of commission.

23 The commission shall have the following duties under this  
24 article:

25 \* \* \*

26 (5) Establish criteria for granting school entities  
27 waivers for the requirements in section 1316-C(a). The  
28 criteria shall include, at a minimum, the following:

29 (i) Documentation that the school entity does not  
30 have a municipal police department or law enforcement

1 agency that is able to provide a school resource officer.

2 (ii) Documentation that the school entity has been  
3 unable to hire or contract a school police officer.

4 (iii) Documentation that the school entity has been  
5 unable to hire or contract a school security guard.

6 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

7 Section 1316-C. School security personnel.

8 (a) School day.--Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
9 beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, a school entity shall  
10 have one armed school security personnel on duty during the  
11 school day as follows:

12 (1) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, a school  
13 entity shall have one armed school security personnel on duty  
14 during the school day at 33% of school buildings.

15 (2) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, a school  
16 entity shall have one armed school security personnel on duty  
17 during the school day at 66% of school buildings.

18 (3) Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, a school  
19 entity shall have one armed school security personnel on duty  
20 during the school day at 100% of school buildings.

21 (b) Extracurricular activities.--A governing body of a  
22 school entity may decide to have an armed school security  
23 personnel on duty in a school building or on school premises  
24 during extracurricular activities that occur outside of the  
25 school day.

26 (c) Certification.--A school entity must certify to the  
27 School Safety and Security Committee that an armed school  
28 security personnel satisfies the requirements of this article.

29 (d) Powers and duties.--

30 (1) School police officers shall have the powers and

1 duties provided under section 1302-C.

2 (2) School resource officers shall have the powers and  
3 duties provided under section 1313-C.

4 (3) School security guards shall have the powers and  
5 duties provided under section 1314-C.

6 (4) School security personnel may have other duties as  
7 assigned by the school entity.

8 (e) Funding.--Money allocated to the School Safety and  
9 Security Fund for the School Safety and Security Grant Program  
10 may be used for the requirements of this section.

11 (f) Waiver.--A school entity that is unable to meet the  
12 requirements in section 1316-C(a) may apply for a waiver to the  
13 committee. The committee may waive the requirements in the case  
14 of a school entity that provides an attestation that it acted in  
15 good faith but is unable to fulfill the criteria. A waiver shall  
16 expire one year after its approval by the committee.

17 (g) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following  
18 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this  
19 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

20 "School building." A building owned by or under the control  
21 of a school entity where classes are taught or extracurricular  
22 activities are conducted on a regular basis.

23 "School day." The hours between the morning opening of a  
24 school building and the afternoon dismissal of students on a day  
25 which classes are in session.

26 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.