

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1959 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY SANTARSIERO, SCHLOSSBERG, YOUNGBLOOD, DIGIROLAMO, BROWNLEE, V. BROWN, DONATUCCI, BISHOP, O'BRIEN, SCAVELLO, MAHONEY, PARKER, MCCARTER, THOMAS, D. COSTA, COHEN, ROZZI, SABATINA, FRANKEL, WHITE, MURT AND KINSEY, JANUARY 16, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JANUARY 16, 2014

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 health services, providing
 6 for parent educational information regarding eating
 7 disorders.

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 1425. Parent Educational Information Regarding
 14 Eating Disorders.--(a) Each school board shall annually provide
 15 parent educational information regarding eating disorders for
 16 pupils in grades five (5) through twelve (12). Such information
 17 shall be consistent with guidelines established by the
 18 Department of Education under subsection (b).

19 (b) The Department of Education, in conjunction with the

1 Department of Health, shall develop and implement guidelines for
2 providing parent educational information regarding eating
3 disorders. The policies shall be developed with input from
4 organizations and entities including local school boards, school
5 superintendents, the National Eating Disorders Association, the
6 Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners, the
7 Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the
8 Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians, the International
9 Association of Eating Disorders Professionals Foundation and the
10 Academy of Eating Disorders. In doing so, the Department of
11 Education and the Department of Health shall identify and
12 develop appropriate additions or revisions to this
13 Commonwealth's school health regulations related to development
14 of parent educational information, including guidance regarding
15 the clear delineation of such health information from other
16 administrative documentation. The guidelines developed for local
17 school boards under this section shall include:

18 (1) the optional development of an eating disorder screening
19 program;

20 (2) specification of training needs and requirements for
21 personnel and volunteers;

22 (3) appropriate opt-out and exemption procedures; and

23 (4) parental notification procedures for positive
24 indications of an eating disorder.

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