

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2259 Session of 2018

INTRODUCED BY DeLUCA, J. McNEILL AND HILL-EVANS, APRIL 16, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 16, 2018

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 further providing for fire and emergency evacuation drills.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1517(a) and (a.1) of the act of March 10,
 10 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,
 11 amended November 6, 2017 (P.L.1142, No.55), are amended to read:

12 Section 1517. Fire and Emergency Evacuation Drills.--(a)
 13 Except as provided under subsection (a.1), in all school
 14 buildings of school entities where fire-escapes, appliances for
 15 the extinguishment of fires, or proper and sufficient exits in
 16 case of fire or panic, either or all, are required by law to be
 17 maintained, [fire drills] a fire drill and school security drill
 18 shall be periodically conducted during alternating months, not
 19 less than one a month, by the teacher or teachers in charge,
 20 under rules and regulations to be promulgated by the chief

1 school administrator under whose supervision such school
2 entities are. In such fire drills the pupils and teachers shall
3 be instructed in, and made thoroughly familiar with, the use of
4 the fire-escapes, appliances and exits. The drill shall include
5 the actual use thereof, and the complete removal of the pupils
6 and teachers, in an expeditious and orderly manner, by means of
7 fire-escapes and exits, from the building to a place of safety
8 on the ground outside.

9 (a.1) [Within ninety (90) days of the commencement of the
10 school year after the effective date of this subsection and
11 within ninety (90) days of the commencement of each school year
12 thereafter, each school entity may conduct one school security
13 drill per school year in each school building in place of a fire
14 drill required under subsection (a).] All of the following shall
15 apply:

16 (1) The school security drill may be conducted while the
17 school entity is in session and students are present under
18 policies adopted by the chief school administrator.

19 (2) The chief school administrator or a designee shall
20 oversee the instruction and training of students and school
21 employees in the procedures to be used in the school security
22 drill.

23 (3) The chief school administrator shall notify and request
24 assistance from the local law enforcement agency and emergency
25 management agency before conducting the school security drill at
26 least once during the school year.

27 (4) The chief school administrator shall provide notice of
28 the school security drill in advance to parents and legal
29 guardians of the students attending the school building for
30 which the school security drill is scheduled.

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