

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2371 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY MARCELL, MERCURI, LABS, M. MACKENZIE, SCHEUREN,
GILLEN, NEILSON AND GROVE, JUNE 3, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JUNE 3, 2024

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 Holocaust, genocide and human rights
7 violations instruction.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1554(f) of the act of March 10, 1949
11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is
12 amended to read:

13 Section 1554. Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights
14 Violations Instruction.--* * *

15 (f) [The] Following the 2024-2025 school year and every five
16 (5) years thereafter, the State Board of Education shall:

17 (1) Conduct a study regarding the manner in which
18 instruction in the Holocaust, genocide and human rights
19 violations is offered by school entities in this Commonwealth.

20 In conducting the study, the State Board of Education shall

1 request that each school entity provide the State Board of
2 Education with information concerning whether the school entity
3 offers such instruction and the manner in which such instruction
4 is offered. Each school entity shall provide information to the
5 State Board of Education in response to a request under this
6 paragraph. [Following the 2016-2017 school year, but not later
7 than November 30, 2017,] No later than November 30, 2025, and
8 every five (5) years thereafter, the State Board of Education
9 shall issue a report to the Governor, the Secretary of
10 Education, the Chairman and Minority Chairman of the Education
11 Committee of the Senate and the Chairman and Minority Chairman
12 of the Education Committee of the House of Representatives
13 addressing the following:

14 (i) The number of school entities offering instruction in
15 the Holocaust, genocide and human rights violations.

16 (ii) The number of school entities using the curriculum
17 guidelines established by the Department of Education under
18 subsection (b).

19 (iii) The number of school entities using the in-service
20 training programs made available by the Department of Education
21 under subsection (c).

22 (iv) A description of the manner in which school entities
23 are offering instruction in the Holocaust, genocide and human
24 rights violations, including the number of hours of instruction
25 offered, the grade levels at which such instruction is offered
26 and the course within such instruction is integrated.

27 (v) The recommendations for improvements to the offering of
28 instruction in the Holocaust, genocide and human rights
29 violations, including updated curriculum guidelines and
30 recommended legislation.

1 (2) Adopt a regulation, pursuant to the act of June 25, 1982
2 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the "Regulatory Review Act," to
3 require school entities to offer instruction in the Holocaust,
4 genocide and human rights violations that is consistent with
5 subsections (a) and (b), if the study conducted by the State
6 Board of Education under paragraph (1) demonstrates that less
7 than ninety percent of the school entities are offering
8 instruction in the Holocaust, genocide and human rights
9 violations consistent with subsections (a) and (b).

10 (3) Adopt rules and regulations necessary for the
11 implementation of this section pursuant to the "Regulatory
12 Review Act."

13 * * *

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