

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 766 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, SCAVELLO, WARD AND BREWSTER, JUNE 15, 2017

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JUNE 15, 2017

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 charter schools, establishing the  
 6 Task Force on Cyber Charter Student Achievement within the  
 7 Department of Education and further providing for cyber  
 8 charter school requirements and prohibitions and for  
 9 enrollment and notification.

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

12 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known  
 13 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a  
 14 section to read:

15 Section 1704-A. Task Force on Cyber Charter Student  
 16 Achievement.--(a) The Task Force on Cyber Charter Student  
 17 Achievement is established within the department.

18 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

19 (1) The secretary or a designee who shall serve as  
 20 chairperson of the task force.

21 (2) Six individuals who represent public schools, two of  
 22 whom represent elementary schools, two of whom represent middle

1 schools/junior high schools and two of whom represent high  
2 schools, and all of whom are appointed by the Governor.

3 (3) Three individuals who represent charter schools, one of  
4 whom represents elementary charter schools, one of whom  
5 represents middle/junior high charter schools and one of whom  
6 represents high school charter schools, and all of whom are  
7 appointed by the Governor.

8 (4) Three individuals who represent cyber charter schools,  
9 one of whom represents elementary cyber charter schools, one of  
10 whom represents middle/junior high cyber charter schools and one  
11 of whom represents high school cyber charter schools, and all of  
12 whom are appointed by the Governor.

13 (c) The members of the task force appointed by the Governor  
14 under subsection (b) (2), (3) and (4) shall serve for a term of  
15 two years.

16 (d) The task force shall meet every five years and more  
17 often at the call of the chairperson.

18 (e) The task force shall develop and issue minimum  
19 achievement requirements for cyber charter school students under  
20 section 1743-A(e) (4). The minimum achievement requirements shall  
21 be completed and published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin within  
22 one hundred eighty (180) days of the effective date of this  
23 section.

24 Section 2. Sections 1743-A(e) and 1748-A(c) of the act are  
25 amended to read:

26 Section 1743-A. Cyber charter school requirements and  
27 prohibitions.

28 \* \* \*

29 (e) Students.--For each student enrolled, a cyber charter  
30 school shall:

1 (1) provide all instructional materials;  
2 (2) provide all equipment, including, but not limited  
3 to, a computer, computer monitor and printer; [and]  
4 (3) provide or reimburse for all technology and services  
5 necessary for the on-line delivery of the curriculum and  
6 instruction[.]; and

7 (4) annually conduct an assessment of the student's  
8 achievement to determine whether the level of achievement  
9 satisfies the minimum achievement requirements established by  
10 the task force under section 1704-A to continue enrollment in  
11 the cyber charter school.

12 The Commonwealth shall not be liable for any reimbursement owed  
13 to students, parents or guardians by a cyber charter school  
14 under paragraph (3).

15 \* \* \*

16 Section 1748-A. Enrollment and notification.

17 \* \* \*

18 (c) Withdrawal.--

19 (1) The cyber charter school and the parent or guardian  
20 of a student enrolled in a cyber charter school shall provide  
21 written notification to the student's school district of  
22 residence within 15 days following the withdrawal of a  
23 student from the cyber charter school.

24 (2) A student who fails, after being assessed in  
25 accordance with section 1743-A(e) (4), to satisfy the minimum  
26 achievement requirements established by the task force under  
27 section 1704-A shall withdraw from the cyber charter school  
28 at the end of the semester in which the assessment occurs and  
29 may not re-enroll in the cyber charter school or enroll in  
30 another cyber charter school unless the student satisfies the

1 minimum achievement requirements at least one school year  
2 thereafter.

3 Section 3. This act shall take effect as follows:

4 (1) The amendment of sections 1743-A(e) and 1748-A(c) of  
5 the act shall take effect in 180 days.

6 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect  
7 immediately.