

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 34 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, AUMENT, BROWNE, MUTH, GORDNER, FOLMER, SCHWANK, HAYWOOD AND YUDICHAK, FEBRUARY 26, 2019

SENATOR AUMENT, EDUCATION, AS AMENDED, MARCH 19, 2019

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Establishing a Global Education Task Force.

2 WHEREAS, It is in the power of the General Assembly granted
3 by the Constitution of Pennsylvania to direct education policy
4 for the system of public education to serve the needs of this
5 Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, Education in Pennsylvania and throughout the United
7 States, particularly in grades K-12, has long been driven by
8 standardized testing that favors some portions of the curriculum
9 and ignores others completely; and

10 WHEREAS, Evidence shows that standardized testing currently
11 driving education in the United States does not measure whether
12 a student is ready to compete in the global marketplace; and

13 WHEREAS, The term "global competence" has been defined as:

14 (1) the acquisition of in-depth knowledge and
15 understanding of international issues;

16 (2) an appreciation of and ability to learn and work
17 with people from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds;

1 and

2 (3) skills to function productively in an interdependent
3 world economy;

4 and

5 WHEREAS, Global competence of students in this Commonwealth
6 can have a direct impact on Pennsylvania's economy and benefit
7 the residents of this Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, The General Assembly desires to encourage the
9 expansion and growth of global competence in this Commonwealth;
10 therefore be it

11 RESOLVED (the House of Representatives concurring), That a
12 Global Education Task Force be established consisting of the
13 following members:

14 (1) the Secretary of Community and Economic Development
15 or a designee;

16 (2) the Secretary of Education or a designee;

17 (3) the Secretary of Labor and Industry or a designee;

18 (4) the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
19 Education Committee of the Senate or their designees;

20 (5) the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
21 Education Committee of the House of Representatives or their
22 designees;

23 (6) the chairperson of the State Board of Education or a
24 designee;

25 (7) the Chancellor of the State System of Higher
26 Education or a designee;

27 (8) sixteen individuals appointed, four each, by the
28 President pro tempore of the Senate, the Minority Leader of
29 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and
30 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;

1 and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the following organizations recommend
3 individuals for appointment to the task force by the President
4 pro tempore of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate,
5 the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Minority
6 Leader of the House of Representatives:

7 (1) The Pennsylvania Council for International
8 Education.

9 (2) The Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

10 (3) The Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Teacher
11 Educators.

12 (4) The Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter
13 Schools.

14 (5) The Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical
15 Administrators.

16 (6) The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education and
17 the Bureau of Postsecondary and Adult Education in the
18 Pennsylvania Department of Education.

19 (7) The Secretary of Agriculture;

20 and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the individuals recommended for appointment to
22 the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Minority Leader of
23 the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
24 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives be actively
25 involved in global education and represent one or more of the
26 following interests:

27 (1) International businesses headquartered in this
28 Commonwealth.

29 (2) The agricultural industries of this Commonwealth.

30 (3) Public schools, including cyber charter schools.

1 (4) Teachers and administrators in K-12 education.

2 (5) Educators and administrators in postsecondary and
3 higher education.

4 (6) International education organizations with knowledge
5 of the educational delivery mechanisms available.

6 (7) Pennsylvania school boards.

7 (8) Career and technical education entities.

8 (9) Students;

9 and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the task force review and make any
11 recommendations regarding the following:

12 (1) the definition of the term "global competence" to
13 assure that the definition:

14 (i) is standardized throughout this Commonwealth for
15 global education and global competence relating to
16 education in this Commonwealth; and

17 (ii) aligns with the goals of the Commonwealth,
18 including the role of global competence in the classroom
19 and school curriculum and the requirements for students
20 to succeed and thrive in an internationally competitive
21 workforce;

22 (2) the recommended use of different methods of
23 assessment of global competence aligned to the currently
24 available standards in this Commonwealth;

25 (3) tools aligned to and embedded in current academic
26 standards in this Commonwealth that are available to measure
27 global competence skills with career oriented results and an
28 engaged citizenry;

29 (4) a delivery mechanism that encompasses learning
30 opportunities that meet global competence goals and utilizes

1 best practices for Pennsylvania students to become
2 economically competitive global-ready graduates;

3 (5) the appropriate conduit for the delivery mechanism;

4 (6) barriers to providing an education for Pennsylvania
5 students to succeed in an increasingly complex global
6 economy;

7 (7) workforce development best practices to ensure
8 economically competitive global-ready graduates;

9 (8) the customization, addition or expansion of
10 Commonwealth global education programs aligned to and
11 embedded in State academic standards, after identifying the
12 best practices already occurring in schools;

13 (9) the adoption of models for school entities and
14 institutions of higher education which incorporate best
15 practices to be used as guidelines and implemented, aligned
16 to and embedded in academic standards of this Commonwealth as
17 they relate to local global education goals, programs and
18 initiatives within schools;

19 (10) the development of a collaborative plan to close
20 the global education gap and ensure that students are global-
21 ready graduates, including recommendations on the assessment
22 tools aligned to and embedded in academic standards of this
23 Commonwealth, the delivery mechanism and the conduit best
24 suited for the delivery mechanism ensuring global competency;

25 (11) workforce development practices to ensure that
26 Pennsylvania students in grades K-12 become economically
27 competitive, global-ready graduates;

28 (12) the availability of courses and cooperative efforts
29 already in existence that could qualify as global education
30 competency indicators, including, but not limited to:

- 1 (i) advanced placement opportunities;
- 2 (ii) international baccalaureate programs and global
3 education programs and initiatives;
- 4 (iii) career and certification courses taught in
5 high schools that could qualify as global education
6 programs or competency indicators; and
- 7 (iv) hybrid learning opportunities listed in which
8 students can earn global education high school or college
9 credit in a combination of classroom activity, online
10 learning, college campus coursework and workplace
11 experiences that could qualify as global education
12 programs or higher education programs or coursework to
13 satisfy the requirements for a certificate or degree
14 involving global education;
- 15 (13) courses to be offered when customizing, adding or
16 expanding options already in place for global competence
17 education, including how courses will be selected, delivered
18 and assessed in a global competence initiative;
- 19 (14) factors and policies for awarding college credit
20 for secondary global education coursework and programs
21 developing global competence;
- 22 (15) examples of best practices for individually defined
23 K-12 and postsecondary global education programs, including a
24 cost projection to sustain or replicate the best practices;
- 25 (16) methods for funding model global education programs
26 in this Commonwealth and for the promotion and expansion of
27 global education;
- 28 (17) the advantages and disadvantages of regionalizing
29 global education initiatives;
- 30 (18) the advantages and disadvantages that a customized

1 global education program would have for school entities,
2 including barriers which students could encounter;

3 (19) issues that might arise for postsecondary education
4 institutions and faculty members regarding the customization,
5 addition or expansion of global education;

6 (20) practices to maximize accessibility to expanded
7 global education;

8 (21) the development of a proposed plan incorporating
9 the essential factors for delivering, customizing, assessing
10 and measuring global proficiency; and

11 (22) any necessary changes to State statutes in light of
12 the findings or recommendations of the task force;

13 and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the task force may hold public hearings in
15 different regions of this Commonwealth; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That all meetings and public hearings of the task
17 force shall be deemed public meetings for the purpose of 65
18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the members of the task force and designated
20 experts utilized may not receive compensation for their services
21 but shall be reimbursed for all necessary travel and other
22 reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the performance
23 of their duties as members of the task force or designated
24 experts; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly provide administrative
26 support, meeting space, TRAVEL AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT, <--
27 ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH and other assistance required by the task
28 force to carry out the duties under this resolution; and be it
29 further

30 RESOLVED, That the Department of Education shall provide the

1 task force with data, ~~research~~ and other information ALREADY <--
2 COLLECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT upon request by the task force; and
3 be it further

4 RESOLVED, That not later than 18 months after the adoption of
5 this resolution the task force issue a report of its findings
6 and recommendations to:

7 (1) the Governor;

8 (2) the Secretary of Education;

9 (3) the State Board of Education;

10 (4) the President pro tempore of the Senate;

11 (5) the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the
12 Senate;

13 (6) the Education Committee of the Senate;

14 (7) the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

15 (8) the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the
16 House of Representatives; and

17 (9) the Education Committee of the House of
18 Representatives.