

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 185 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY QUINN, HILL-EVANS, BARRAR, KIRKLAND, KORTZ AND NEILSON, JANUARY 28, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, JANUARY 28, 2019

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 providing for opioid abuse program.

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

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

12 Section 1547.1. Opioid Abuse Program.--(a) Beginning with
 13 school year 2019-2020 and each school year thereafter, a public
 14 school student shall receive mandatory instruction in opioid
 15 abuse in every school year in every grade from grade six through
 16 grade twelve. The instruction shall be integrated within the
 17 health course of study required in accordance with the State
 18 Board of Education regulations. In grades where health is
 19 offered, instruction may also be integrated into other
 20 appropriate courses of study. The instruction shall meet the

1 following requirements:

2 (1) The instruction shall be age appropriate.

3 (2) The instruction shall be sequential in method of study.

4 (3) The instruction shall discourage the use of opioids.

5 (b) A school district may utilize any appropriate public or
6 private materials, personnel and other resources in developing
7 and implementing instruction in opioid abuse. The Department of
8 Drug and Alcohol Programs shall make available information about
9 appropriate curriculum materials upon request of a school
10 district. In developing an opioid abuse instructional program, a
11 school district shall consult with the single county authority
12 designated by the Department of Health to provide drug and
13 alcohol services in the school district's area.

14 (c) A school district may develop and offer programs
15 relating to opioid abuse for parents of students enrolled in
16 public schools. If a school district opts to develop and offer
17 programs relating to opioid abuse under this subsection, it
18 shall be done in consultation with the single county authority
19 designated by the Department of Health to provide drug and
20 alcohol services in the school district's area. Programs
21 relating to opioid abuse under this subsection shall be offered
22 at no cost to parents.

23 (d) The Secretary of Education, in consultation with the
24 Secretary of Health, shall develop curriculum guidelines for
25 instruction on opioid abuse and the laws governing opioid use
26 and opioid misuse. The curriculum guidelines shall encourage the
27 inclusion of the following elements when appropriate in the
28 instruction:

29 (1) Detailed factual information regarding the
30 physiological, psychological, sociological and legal aspects of

1 opioid abuse.

2 (2) Detailed information regarding the availability of help
3 and assistance for students and their families with opioid
4 dependency problems.

5 (3) Detailed instruction on the need for and the role of
6 lawful authority and law-abiding behavior, including interaction
7 with members of the legal and justice community.

8 (e) The Department of Education shall reimburse a school
9 district for the costs of implementing opioid instruction from
10 available funds.

11 (f) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules and
12 regulations necessary for the implementation of this section.

13 Section 2. The following sums, or as much of the sums as may
14 be necessary, are hereby appropriated for the fiscal year July
15 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020, for the purpose of implementing
16 instruction in opioid abuse under section 1547.1 of the act:

17 (1) \$5,000 to a school district of the fourth class.

18 (2) \$10,000 to a school district of the third class with
19 fewer than 10,000 students.

20 (3) \$25,000 to a school district of the third class with
21 more than 10,000 students.

22 (4) \$100,000 to a school district of the first class A.

23 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.