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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1844 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY WATSON, CONKLIN, MILLARD, ROZZI, STEPHENS, WARD,  
V. BROWN, DRISCOLL, MURT, PASHINSKI AND PICKETT,  
OCTOBER 3, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, OCTOBER 3, 2017

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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 child exploitation awareness education.

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

9 Section 1. Section 1527(a) and (c) of the act of March 10,  
10 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949,  
11 are amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection to  
12 read:

13 Section 1527. Child Exploitation Awareness Education.--(a)  
14 Beginning with the [2015-2016] 2018-2019 school year, each  
15 school entity [may] shall:

16 (1) Develop an age-appropriate child exploitation awareness  
17 education program and incorporate such program into the school  
18 entity's existing curriculum for students in kindergarten  
19 through grade eight. In developing the program, the school

1 entity may use the model curriculum developed by the department  
2 under subsection (b) (2).

3 (2) Include training in child exploitation awareness in the  
4 professional development plan submitted by the school entity to  
5 the secretary for approval pursuant to section 1205.1; provided  
6 that a school entity shall provide four (4) hours of such  
7 training every five (5) years for professional educators  
8 assigned to teach courses into which child exploitation  
9 awareness education has been incorporated under paragraph (1).  
10 Training under this paragraph may be used to satisfy a  
11 professional educator's continuing professional education  
12 requirement under section 1205.2. A school entity may use the  
13 materials made available by the department under subsection (b)  
14 (1) to conduct such training.

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16 (b.1) If a school entity determines that the school entity  
17 does not have sufficient resources to develop and incorporate a  
18 child exploitation awareness education program into the school  
19 entity's curriculum as required under subsection (a), the school  
20 entity shall work in conjunction with a community organization  
21 to develop and incorporate a child exploitation awareness  
22 education program at no cost to the school entity.

23 (c) As used in this section, the following words and phrases  
24 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless  
25 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

26 "Community organization." An entity approved by the Child  
27 Advocacy Center Advisory Committee to develop and provide child  
28 exploitation awareness education in a school entity.

29 "Department." The Department of Education of the  
30 Commonwealth.

1 "Nonpublic school." A nonprofit school, other than a school  
2 entity, wherein a resident of this Commonwealth may legally  
3 fulfill the compulsory school attendance requirements of this  
4 act and which meets the requirements of Title VI of the Civil  
5 Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352, 78 Stat. 241).

6 "Professional educator." As defined in section 1205.2(o).

7 "School entity." A school district, joint school district,  
8 charter school, regional charter school, cyber charter school,  
9 intermediate unit or area vocational-technical school.

10 "Secretary." The Secretary of Education of the Commonwealth.

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