

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2332 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY FEE, CEPHAS, R. BROWN, CIRESI, SCHLEGEL CULVER,  
 T. DAVIS, GUENST, HAMM, HANBIDGE, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL,  
 HILL-EVANS, HOHENSTEIN, JAMES, JONES, KEEFER, KINSEY,  
 M. MACKENZIE, MADDEN, McNEILL, MENTZER, MOUL, MULLINS,  
 PARKER, PICKETT, SANCHEZ, SAYLOR, SCHLOSSBERG AND ZIMMERMAN,  
 FEBRUARY 9, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 9, 2022

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 school health services, further  
 6 providing for dental examinations and dental hygiene  
 7 services.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1403 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 1403. Dental [Examinations] Screenings and Dental  
 14 Hygiene Services.--(a) All children of school age in the  
 15 Commonwealth, (i) upon original entry into the school, (ii)  
 16 while in the third grade, and (iii) while in the seventh grade,  
 17 shall be given a dental [examination] screening by a school  
 18 dentist or public health dental hygiene practitioner: Provided,

1 however, That this requirement shall not apply to those school  
2 districts or joint school boards which have instituted a program  
3 of dental hygiene services as provided in subsection (b) of this  
4 section.

5 (b) Any school district or joint school board may institute  
6 a program of dental hygiene services for children of school age,  
7 which program shall be approved by the Secretary of Health, and  
8 for that purpose may employ dental hygienists.

9 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a school  
10 district or joint school board may use a public health dental  
11 hygiene practitioner to satisfy the requirements under this  
12 section.

13 (d) As used in this section, "public health dental hygiene  
14 practitioner" shall have the same meaning given to that term in  
15 section 2 of the act of May 1, 1933 (P.L.216, No.76), known as  
16 "The Dental Law."

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