

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 328 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY D. COSTA, DeLUCA, READSHAW, YOUNGBLOOD, KILLION, DAVIS, DUNBAR, SCHLOSSBERG, COHEN, LONGIETTI, THOMAS, JAMES, BOBACK, HARKINS, TRUITT, DEASY, KORTZ, GABLER AND WATSON, FEBRUARY 4, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 4, 2015

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 capstone course in personal finance as
 7 graduation requirement.

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

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

13 Section 1551.1. Capstone Course in Personal Finance as
 14 Graduation Requirement.--(a) The State Board of Education shall
 15 require every candidate for a full high school diploma after
 16 September 2015, to receive at least one (1) semester of
 17 instruction in a stand-alone capstone course relating to
 18 personal finance at some time during grades eleven (11) or
 19 twelve (12) of the candidate's educational career.

1 (b) In order to fulfill this graduation requirement, school
2 districts may choose from several delivery options for offering
3 this course, including classroom instruction, which shall be the
4 equivalent of one (1) semester or one-half (.5) credit, or as a
5 standards-aligned, self-paced online or blended course which
6 includes a district-approved, end-of-course assessment.

7 (c) Each school entity may utilize educational materials as
8 provided for in section 1551 for the purpose of fulfilling this
9 graduation requirement.

10 (d) The Department of Education shall make available and
11 conduct professional development to school districts that
12 request assistance in implementing the provisions of this
13 section.

14 (e) As used in this section, "capstone course" means a
15 course of study that occurs during grades eleven (11) or twelve
16 (12) of a student's high school career that is designed to bring
17 reflection and focus to the whole of the student's learning
18 throughout the student's years of education on a particular
19 subject and that is a comprehensive review of the subject matter
20 being considered and in which course the work effectively
21 culminates in each student demonstrating a comprehensive
22 understanding of the subject matter.

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