

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 247 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY PHILLIPS-HILL, SCHWANK, MARTIN, J. WARD, AUMENT, MENSCH, DUSH AND BREWSTER, FEBRUARY 18, 2021

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 18, 2021

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 professional employees, repealing  
 6 provisions relating to religious garb, insignia, etc.,  
 7 prohibited and penalty.

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

10 Section 1. Section 1112 of the act of March 10, 1949  
 11 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is  
 12 repealed:

13 [Section 1112. Religious Garb, Insignia, etc., Prohibited;  
 14 Penalty.--(a) That no teacher in any public school shall wear  
 15 in said school or while engaged in the performance of his duty  
 16 as such teacher any dress, mark, emblem or insignia indicating  
 17 the fact that such teacher is a member or adherent of any  
 18 religious order, sect or denomination.

19 (b) Any teacher employed in any of the public schools of  
 20 this Commonwealth, who violates the provisions of this section,

1 shall be suspended from employment in such school for the term  
2 of one year, and in case of a second offense by the same teacher  
3 he shall be permanently disqualified from teaching in said  
4 school. Any public school director who after notice of any such  
5 violation fails to comply with the provisions of this section  
6 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction of the  
7 first offense, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding  
8 one hundred dollars (\$100), and on conviction of a second  
9 offense, the offending school director shall be sentenced to pay  
10 a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100) and shall be  
11 deprived of his office as a public school director. A person  
12 thus twice convicted shall not be eligible to appointment or  
13 election as a director of any public school in this Commonwealth  
14 within a period of five (5) years from the date of his second  
15 conviction.]

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