
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 515 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY TEPLITZ, SCARNATI, COSTA, VULAKOVICH, TARTAGLIONE
AND YUDICHAK, FEBRUARY 19, 2015

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 19, 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 preliminary provisions, further
6 providing for definitions; and in terms and courses of study,
7 further providing for fire and emergency evacuation drills.

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

10 Section 1. Section 102 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30,
11 No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by
12 adding a definition to read:

13 Section 102. Definitions.--When used in this act the
14 following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

15 * * *

16 "School security drill." An exercise, other than a fire
17 drill, to practice procedures that respond to an emergency
18 situation, including, but not limited to, a nonfire evacuation,
19 lockdown or active shooter situation that are similar in
20 duration to a fire drill.

1 * * *

2 Section 2. Section 1517(d) of the act, amended January 14,
3 1970 (1969 P.L.468, No.192), is amended and the section is
4 amended by adding a subsection to read:

5 Section 1517. Fire and Emergency Evacuation Drills.--* * *

6 (d) All schools using or contracting for school buses for
7 the transportation of school children shall conduct on school
8 grounds two emergency evacuation drills on buses during each
9 school year, the first to be conducted during the first week of
10 the first school term and the second during the month of March,
11 and at such other times as the chief school administrator may
12 require. Each such drill shall include the practice and
13 instruction concerning the location, use and operation of
14 emergency exit doors and fire extinguishers and the proper
15 evacuation of buses in the event of fires or accidents.

16 Bus operators shall be provided with proper training and
17 instructions to enable them to carry out the provisions of this
18 subsection and may be required to attend classes and drills in
19 connection therewith.

20 On or before the tenth day of April of each year, each
21 district superintendent shall certify to the [Department of
22 Public Instruction] Department of Education that the emergency
23 evacuation drills herein required have been held.

24 (e) (1) In all public schools, school security drills shall
25 be periodically conducted not less than twice a year. The drills
26 may be in place of, or in addition to, two of the required
27 monthly fire drills. In the security drills, the pupils and
28 teachers shall be instructed in, and made thoroughly familiar
29 with, the steps to be taken in the event of an emergency
30 situation that does not involve a fire, including, but not

1 limited to, a natural disaster, armed intruder or building
2 collapse.

3 (2) On or before the tenth day of April each year, each
4 district superintendent shall certify to the Department of
5 Education that the school security drills required under this
6 section have been held.

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