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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 546 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY McILHINNEY, RAFFERTY, MENSCH AND DiSANTO,  
MARCH 24, 2017

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REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 24, 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 providing for film approval by parent or guardian and  
7 imposing a penalty.

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 1528. Film Approval by Parent or Guardian.--(a)  
14 Prior to displaying, as part of a school entity's educational  
15 program, a motion picture rated "R" or "NC-17" by the Motion  
16 Picture Association of America, a school entity shall notify and  
17 obtain written consent from the parents or guardians of each  
18 student enrolled in the course in which the motion picture is to  
19 be displayed. If a parent or guardian of a student enrolled in  
20 the course in which the motion picture is to be displayed

1 objects or fails to provide written consent to the display of  
2 the motion picture, the school entity may not display the motion  
3 picture during the current school year.

4 (b) School entities shall retain consent forms for two (2)  
5 years following their submission.

6 (c) A school entity that willfully fails to comply with this  
7 section commits a violation of this act. The Department of  
8 Education shall have jurisdiction to determine violations of  
9 this section and may, following a hearing, assess a civil  
10 penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000). The civil penalty  
11 shall be payable to the Commonwealth.

12 (d) As used in this section, the term "school entity" means  
13 a public school, intermediate unit, area vocational-technical  
14 school or charter school.

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