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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 831 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, SCHWANK, TARTAGLIONE, COSTA, FONTANA,  
VULAKOVICH, YUDICHAK AND BREWSTER, MAY 14, 2015

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REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MAY 14, 2015

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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 charter schools, further providing  
6 for contents of application, for enrollment, for annual  
7 reports and assessments, for provisions applicable to charter  
8 schools and for applicability of other provisions of this act  
9 and of other acts and regulations.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 1719-A of the act of March 10, 1949  
13 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is  
14 amended by adding a paragraph to read:

15 Section 1719-A. Contents of Application.--An application to  
16 establish a charter school shall include all of the following  
17 information:

18 \* \* \*

19 (18) Policies regarding truancy, absences and withdrawal of  
20 students, including the manner in which the charter school will  
21 monitor attendance consistent with section 1715-A(a) (9).

1 Section 2. Section 1723-A of the act is amended by adding a  
2 subsection to read:

3 Section 1723-A. Enrollment.--\* \* \*

4 (e) (1) Within ten (10) days of enrollment of a student to  
5 a charter school, the charter school shall notify the student's  
6 school district of residence of the enrollment through the use  
7 of a notification form developed by the department.

8 (2) The charter school and parent or legal guardian of a  
9 student enrolled in the school shall provide written  
10 notification to the student's school district of residence  
11 within ten (10) days after withdrawal of a student from a  
12 charter school.

13 (3) The charter school and parent or legal guardian of a  
14 student enrolled in the school shall provide written  
15 notification to the student's school district of residence  
16 within ten (10) days after a summary conviction or assignment to  
17 an adjudication alternative program under section 1333 is  
18 ordered.

19 (4) The notification required under this subsection shall  
20 include:

21 (i) The name, home address and mailing address of the  
22 student.

23 (ii) The grade in which the student is enrolled.

24 (iii) The date the student will be enrolled, withdrawn or  
25 that was the subject of the penalties incurred.

26 (iv) The name and address of the charter school and the name  
27 and telephone number of a contact person able to provide  
28 information regarding the school.

29 (v) If notification is required under paragraph (2), the  
30 name and address of the school, whether charter, home or

1 otherwise, where the student has enrolled upon their withdrawal  
2 and the name and telephone number of a contact person able to  
3 provide information regarding the newly enrolled school.

4 (vi) The signature of the parent or legal guardian of the  
5 student and an authorized representative of the charter school.

6 Section 3. Section 1728-A(a) of the act, added June 19, 1997  
7 (P.L.225, No.22), is amended and the section is amended by  
8 adding a subsection to read:

9 Section 1728-A. Annual Reports and Assessments.--(a) (1)  
10 The local board of school directors shall annually assess  
11 whether each charter school is meeting the goals of its charter  
12 and shall conduct a comprehensive review prior to granting a  
13 five (5) year renewal of the charter. The local board of school  
14 directors shall have ongoing access to the records and  
15 facilities of the charter school to ensure that the charter  
16 school is in compliance with its charter and this act and that  
17 requirements for testing, civil rights and student health and  
18 safety are being met.

19 (2) A charter school shall review at the close of each  
20 fiscal year an enrollment test to verify the accuracy of student  
21 enrollment and reporting to the Commonwealth.

22 \* \* \*

23 (d) (1) The accuracy of the charter school's enrollment and  
24 reporting to the Commonwealth shall be made available on the  
25 school district's publicly accessible Internet website and the  
26 charter school's publicly accessible Internet website, if  
27 applicable.

28 (2) A charter school shall annually provide the school  
29 district and the department with a copy of the accuracy of the  
30 charter school's enrollment and reporting to the Commonwealth.

1     (3) The charter school foundation shall also make copies of  
2 the accuracy of the charter school's enrollment and reporting to  
3 the Commonwealth available upon request and on the foundation's  
4 or the school's publicly accessible Internet website within  
5 thirty (30) days of the close of the foundation's fiscal year.

6     Section 4. Sections 1732-A(a) and 1749-A(a) of the act,  
7 amended June 29, 2002 (P.L.524, No.88), are amended to read:

8     Section 1732-A. Provisions Applicable to Charter Schools.--

9     (a) Charter schools shall be subject to the following:

10     Sections 108, 110, 111, 321, 325, 326, 327, 431, 436, 443,  
11 510, 518, 527, 708, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 752, 753,  
12 [755,] 771, 776, 777, 808, 809, 810, 1109, 1111, 1112(a), 1301,  
13 1302, 1310, 1317, 1317.1, 1317.2, 1318, 1327, 1330, 1332, 1333,  
14 1342, 1343, 1354, 1355, 1303-A, 1513, 1517, 1518, 1521, 1523,  
15 1531, 1547, 2014-A, Article XIII-A and Article XIV.

16     Act of July 17, 1961 (P.L.776, No.341), known as the  
17 "Pennsylvania Fair Educational Opportunities Act."

18     Act of July 19, 1965 (P.L.215, No.116), entitled "An act  
19 providing for the use of eye protective devices by persons  
20 engaged in hazardous activities or exposed to known dangers in  
21 schools, colleges and universities."

22     Section 4 of the act of January 25, 1966 (1965 P.L.1546,  
23 No.541), entitled "An act providing scholarships and providing  
24 funds to secure Federal funds for qualified students of the  
25 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who need financial assistance to  
26 attend postsecondary institutions of higher learning, making an  
27 appropriation, and providing for the administration of this  
28 act."

29     Act of July 12, 1972 (P.L.765, No.181), entitled "An act  
30 relating to drugs and alcohol and their abuse, providing for

1 projects and programs and grants to educational agencies, other  
2 public or private agencies, institutions or organizations."

3 Act of December 15, 1986 (P.L.1595, No.175), known as the  
4 "Antihazing Law."

5 \* \* \*

6 Section 1749-A. Applicability of other provisions of this act  
7 and of other acts and regulations.

8 (a) General requirements.--Cyber charter schools shall be  
9 subject to the following:

10 (1) Sections 108, 110, 111, 321, 325, 326, 327, 431,  
11 436, 443, 510, 518, 527, 708, 752, 753, [755,] 771, 776, 777,  
12 808, 809, 810, 1109, 1111, 1112(a), 1205.1, 1205.2, 1301,  
13 1302, 1310, 1317.2, 1318, 1327, 1330, 1332, 1333, 1342, 1343,  
14 1354, 1355, 1303-A, 1518, 1521, 1523, 1531, 1547, 1702-A,  
15 1703-A, 1714-A, 1715-A, 1716-A, 1719-A, 1721-A, 1722-A, 1723-  
16 A(a) and (b), 1724-A, 1725-A, 1727-A, 1728-A(a)(2) and (b),  
17 1729-A, 1730-A, 1731-A(a)(1) and (b) and 2014-A and Articles  
18 XII-A, XIII-A and XIV.

19 (2) The act of July 17, 1961 (P.L.776, No.341), known as  
20 the Pennsylvania Fair Educational Opportunities Act.

21 (3) The act of July 19, 1965 (P.L.215, No.116), entitled  
22 "An act providing for the use of eye protective devices by  
23 persons engaged in hazardous activities or exposed to known  
24 dangers in schools, colleges and universities."

25 (4) Section 4 of the act of January 25, 1966 (1965  
26 P.L.1546, No.541), entitled "An act providing scholarships  
27 and providing funds to secure Federal funds for qualified  
28 students of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who need  
29 financial assistance to attend postsecondary institutions of  
30 higher learning, making an appropriation, and providing for

1 the administration of this act."

2 (5) The act of July 12, 1972 (P.L.765, No.181) entitled  
3 "An act relating to drugs and alcohol and their abuse,  
4 providing for projects and programs and grants to educational  
5 agencies, other public or private agencies, institutions or  
6 organizations."

7 (6) The act of December 15, 1986 (P.L.1595, No.175),  
8 known as the Antihazing Law.

9 \* \* \*

10 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.