
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 926 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY CAPPELLETTI, HAYWOOD, FONTANA, SAVAL, COMITTA,
KANE, COLLETT AND MUTH, OCTOBER 3, 2023

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, OCTOBER 3, 2023

AN ACT

1 Providing for State aid requirement for libraries relating to
2 book removal and for prohibited removal of instructional
3 materials and voluntary inquiry materials in public school
4 entities.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Definitions.

8 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
9 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
10 context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Instructional materials." Textbooks and supplementary
12 materials used as part of required classroom instruction.

13 "Public school entity." A public school, including a school
14 district, charter school, intermediate unit or area career and
15 technical school.

16 "Voluntary inquiry materials." Nonfiction and fiction books,
17 magazines, reference books, supplementary titles, multimedia and
18 digital materials, software and instructional materials and
19 other materials not required as part of classroom instruction.

1 Section 2. State aid requirement for libraries relating to book
2 removal.

3 (a) Requirement.--To receive State aid, a library subject to
4 24 Pa.C.S. Ch. 93 (relating to Public Library Code) or a school
5 library must:

6 (1) adopt the American Library Association's Library
7 Bill of Rights that indicates materials should not be
8 proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal
9 disapproval; or

10 (2) develop a written statement that prohibits the
11 library from banning books or other materials.

12 (b) Prohibition.--A municipality may not reduce funding for
13 a library due to the library's compliance with subsection (a).

14 Section 3. Prohibited removal of instructional materials and
15 voluntary inquiry materials in public school
16 entities.

17 Instructional materials and voluntary inquiry materials shall
18 not be removed from a library or classroom in a public school
19 entity due to any of the following reasons:

20 (1) Partisan approval or disapproval.

21 (2) The author's race, nationality, gender identity,
22 sexual orientation or political or religious views.

23 (3) School board of directors' or complainants'
24 discomfort, personal morality or political or religious
25 views.

26 (4) The author's points of view concerning the problems
27 and issues of our time, whether international, national or
28 local.

29 (5) The race, nationality, gender identity, sexual
30 orientation or political or religious views of the

1 protagonist or other characters.

2 (6) Content that is relevant to the research,
3 independent reading interests and educational needs of older
4 students based on their age, development or grade level.

5 (7) Content related to sexual health that addresses
6 physical, mental, emotional and social dimensions of human
7 sexuality, including puberty, sex and relationships.

8 Section 4. Effective date.

9 This act shall take effect in 60 days.