

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL**No. 612** Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY FOLMER, SMUCKER, M. WHITE, RAFFERTY, EICHELBERGER,
WAUGH, EARLL, PICCOLA, BRUBAKER, D. WHITE, ALLOWAY, VANCE,
McILHINNEY, WARD AND BROWNE, FEBRUARY 18, 2011

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 18, 2011

AN ACT

Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An act relating to the public school system, including certain provisions applicable as well to private and parochial schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto," in professional employees, further providing for causes for suspension.

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

Section 1. Section 1124 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, added August 8, 1963 (P.L.564, No.299), is amended to read:

Section 1124. Causes for Suspension.--(a) Any board of school directors may suspend the necessary number of professional employes, for any of the causes hereinafter enumerated:

(1) Substantial decrease in pupil enrollment in the school district;

(2) Curtailment or alteration of the educational program on recommendation of the superintendent, concurred in by the board

of school directors, approved by the Department of Public Instruction, as a result of substantial decline in class or course enrollments or to conform with standards of organization or educational activities required by law or recommended by the Department of Public Instruction;

(3) Consolidation of schools, whether within a single district, through a merger of districts, or as a result of joint board agreements, when such consolidation makes it unnecessary to retain the full staff of professional employees.

(4) When new school districts are established as the result of reorganization of school districts pursuant to Article II., subdivision (i) of this act, and when such reorganization makes it unnecessary to retain the full staff of professional employees.

(5) Economic reasons, as part of a plan to reduce or control school district costs.

(b) (1) The following shall apply to any suspension of a professional employe assigned to provide instruction directly to students:

(i) A board of school directors may suspend the necessary number of professional employes assigned to provide instruction directly to students only if the board of school directors also suspends at least an equal percentage proportion of administrative staff.

(ii) The State Board of Education may, by a majority vote, grant a board of school directors a waiver of subparagraph (i) if the State Board of Education determines that compliance with subparagraph (i) is likely to cause significant harm to the operations of the school district.

(2) For purposes of this subsection, "administrative staff"

shall include, but not be limited to, superintendents, assistant superintendents, deputy superintendents, principals, assistant principals, supervisors, managers, directors, coordinators and any other staff who are not assigned to provide instruction directly to students.

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