

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL**No. 871** Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY BRUBAKER, PICCOLA, PILEGGI, FOLMER, EICHELBERGER,
ALLOWAY, WAUGH, ERICKSON, D. WHITE, HUGHES AND YAW,
MARCH 31, 2011

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 31, 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," further providing for continuing professional development and for program of continuing professional development.

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

Section 1. Section 1205.1 of the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a subsection to read:

Section 1205.1. Continuing Professional Development.--* * *

(f) Beginning on the effective date of this subsection, the requirements under this section shall be suspended until June 30, 2013.

Section 2. Section 1205.2(a) and (f) of the act, amended July 13, 2005 (P.L.226, No.46) and February 2, 2006 (P.L.19, No.5), are amended and the section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

Section 1205.2. Program of Continuing Professional Education.--(a) A continuing professional education program is hereby established for professional educators, the satisfactory completion of which is required to maintain active certification. Except as provided in subsection [(j.1)] (n.1), the continuing professional education program shall require the satisfactory completion of continuing professional education every five (5) years, which shall include:

(1) six (6) credits of collegiate study;

(2) six (6) credits of continuing professional education courses;

(3) one hundred eighty (180) hours of continuing professional education programs, activities or learning experiences; or

(4) any combination of collegiate studies, continuing professional education courses, or other programs, activities or learning experiences equivalent to one hundred eighty (180) hours.

* * *

(f) [The] Except as provided in subsection (n.1), the department shall annually provide a minimum of forty (40) hours of continuing professional education courses, programs, activities or learning experiences at no charge to professional educators. In providing these courses, the department shall seek to use the most efficient and cost-effective means possible, including the use of advanced technology such as CD-ROM, the Internet and distance communication.

* * *

(n.1) Beginning on the effective date of this subsection, the requirements under subsections (a) and (f) shall be

suspended until June 30, 2013. During that time, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee shall conduct a study of the costs and benefits of the continuing professional education program. On July 1, 2013, each professional educator shall have the same number of hours of continuing professional education and the same amount of time in which to complete those hours as existed for the professional educator on the effective date of this subsection; provided, however, that any continuing professional education credits or hours completed by a professional educator during the period of suspension under this subsection shall be credited to the professional educator's continuing professional education record.

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