
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 936 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY ORTITAY, TOPPER AND DIAMOND, MARCH 25, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 25, 2019

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 preliminary provisions, providing
6 for Defining a New Future for Pennsylvania Commission.

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

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

12 Section 128. Defining a New Future for Pennsylvania
13 Commission.--(a) The Defining a New Future for Pennsylvania
14 Commission is established.

15 (b) The commission shall review and make findings and
16 recommendations related to the Commonwealth's education system
17 for grades kindergarten through twelve.

18 (c) The commission shall consist of the following members:

19 (1) The Governor or a designee.

20 (2) The Auditor General or a designee.

1 (3) The Attorney General or a designee.

2 (4) The Chancellor of the State System of Higher Education
3 or a designee.

4 (5) The Commissioner of Pennsylvania State Police or a
5 designee.

6 (6) The Executive Director of Pennsylvania Commission on
7 Crime and Delinquency or a designee.

8 (7) The President of the Pennsylvania Commission for
9 Community Colleges or a designee.

10 (8) The President pro tempore of the Senate or a designee.

11 (9) The Minority Leader of the Senate or a designee.

12 (10) The Speaker of the House of Representatives or a
13 designee.

14 (11) The Minority Leader of the House of Representatives or
15 a designee.

16 (12) Two students of a public school in this Commonwealth,
17 who are appointed by the Governor and whose term shall expire
18 upon the student's graduation, separation from the public school
19 or failure to maintain good academic standards at the public
20 school.

21 (13) A representative from a nonprofit organization that
22 represents a private elementary or secondary school in this
23 Commonwealth, who is appointed by the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives.

25 (14) A representative from each of the following:

26 (i) The Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

27 (ii) The Pennsylvania State Education Association.

28 (iii) The Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools.

29 (iv) The Pennsylvania Principals Association.

30 (v) The Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators.

1 (vi) The Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry.

2 (vii) The Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical
3 Administrators.

4 (viii) The Pennsylvania State Building and Construction
5 Trades Council, AFL-CIO.

6 (d) The commission shall hold its first meeting within sixty
7 (60) days of the effective date of this subsection regardless of
8 whether all of the commission members have been appointed to the
9 commission.

10 (e) The commission shall appoint a member to serve as
11 chairperson of the commission.

12 (f) The commission shall hold meetings at the call of the
13 chairperson.

14 (g) The members may not receive compensation for their
15 services but shall be reimbursed for all necessary travel and
16 other reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the
17 performance of their duties as members of the commission.

18 (h) The General Assembly shall provide administrative
19 support, meeting space and other assistance required by the
20 commission to carry out its duties under this section.

21 (i) The Department of Education shall provide the commission
22 with data, research and other information upon request.

23 (j) The commission shall issue a report containing findings
24 and recommendations not later than May 15, 2021, to the
25 following:

26 (1) The Governor.

27 (2) The President pro tempore of the Senate.

28 (3) The Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate.

29 (4) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

30 (5) The Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the House of

1 Representatives.

2 (6) The Appropriations Committee of the Senate.

3 (7) The Appropriations Committee of the House of
4 Representatives.

5 (8) The Education Committee of the Senate.

6 (9) The Education Committee of the House of Representatives.

7 (k) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
8 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless
9 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

10 "Commission." The Defining a New Future for Pennsylvania
11 Commission established under this section.

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.